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INSIDE THIS WEEK:

Helping hand for Twinkle House

Happy Mother's Day
Thank you to all the children who sent us a picture of their Mum!
SPECIAL FEATURE INSIDE

FAMILY DISTRESS OVER ORDER TO REMOVE GRAVESIDE TRIBUTES

Report by **Henry James**

A FAMILY who were left distressed after vandals damaged and stole tributes left at the graveside of a loved one have now been told by the church that their remaining items have to be removed.

The Champion reported the damage at the graveside at St Thomas The Martyr Church in Up Holland earlier this year.

Last week the same family, who do not wish to be named, contacted us to say they had received a letter asking them to move their tributes.

A family member wrote: "On Monday, March 18 my relative received a letter from the church stating that any floral tributes, solar lights, wind chimes or other items were to be removed from the grave.

"As you can imagine, the distress the earlier damage and thefts caused the family was heartbreaking. Now the church have caused further upset and distress to my father-in-law and family.

"Upon opening the letter my father-in-law was reduced to tears again by the uncaring nature of the church. His wife has not been buried 12 months and the church are saying that floral tributes and other items will have to be removed.

"How insensitive. The tokens of love left there are not causing any offence and are a way of showing our love for a lost one. Many visitors to the graveyard have passed comment on how lovely and peaceful the grave is with the floral tributes and ornaments.

"Apparently you are not allowed to create a 'garden' in front of the headstone to remember a loved one but have to make do with a headstone with flower pots within the plinth.

St Thomas The Martyr Church in Up Holland.

"We have spoken to other families who have loved ones buried within the graveyard who have similar items around their graves. They have not received any letter from the church to date.

"Upsetting"

"We feel targeted by the church for our affection for a much-loved wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother.

"This is so upsetting along with the mindless and unforgivable actions of the persons causing the damage. How can the church act in this way?

"We understand that there are regulations which govern the laying of headstones and maintenance of the area, however it appears that this is one rule for one and another rule for another."

Reverend Paul Lock, priest in charge at St Thomas the Martyr, responded: "I'm really sorry to hear the letter asking a resident to remove items from a family member's grave caused them upset. We understand that losing a loved one is a very difficult time and people associate great emotional meaning to the tributes they place near to their loved one's grave. Which is why family tributes are left for several weeks following a burial. We then ask families to remove their tributes while the ground is prepared and levelled to comply with Diocesan regulations.

"A headstone can only be erected once the ground has settled for around six months. Once a headstone is in place, it can be used to display tributes.

"Upkeep of the graveyard to ensure it is a safe and accessible place for everyone to visit is a mammoth task. As well as paying contractors to cut the grass we are truly blessed that our community plays such a vital role in its upkeep of our church and its surrounding environment, including the graveyard.

"We ask that people do not add garden areas, fences

Continued inside

Police find machetes in abandoned car search

SKELMERSDALE Police found two large machetes while searching an abandoned car.

The weapons were discovered after officers had received a report of an accident on Back Lane, Digmoor on the afternoon of Sunday, March 24.

They posted this picture of the machetes (above) to their social media page under the hashtag #removingknivesfromourstreets

The post read: 'Following a report of an accident on Back Lane Digmoor a vehicle was located abandoned, the resulting search located two large machetes. Enquiries ongoing to identify the owner.'

This prompted responses from the public. One read 'How are they even getting their hands on these' while another stated: 'It should be five years for carrying these. Simple.'

There have been a number of knife-related incidents in the town over recent months.

And earlier this month Skelmersdale Police announced they were supporting a national week-long knife surrender which was set up following a surge in knife-related attacks.

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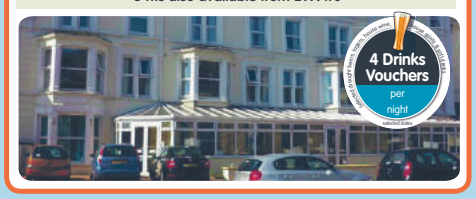

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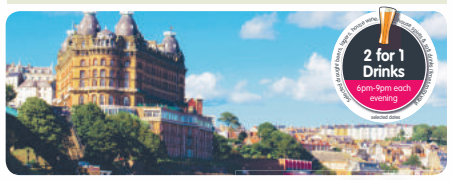

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Church dance event to combat loneliness could become regular feature

THE success of an afternoon tea and dance organised by Christ Church, Aughton with the aim of helping to tackle loneliness and social isolation in the community has prompted church leaders to consider making it a regular feature.

The event was held in conjunction with Age UK at the church's Ministry Centre, in Long Lane.

Special guest on the day was the Bishop of Warrington, Beverley Mason, while the dance was led by qualified instructors mother and daughter, Jane and Emma Bowler, who recently set up a weekly free dance class at Burscough's St John the Baptist Church, similarly aimed at combating loneliness.

Free transport to and from the event was provided by Dial A Ride.

The new vicar of Christ Church, Reverend Sarah O'Donoghue, said: "There was a great atmosphere at the community afternoon tea dance. Working in partnership with Age UK and Dial-a-ride strengthened the community links.

"The event was well attended, everyone agreed it was a success and should be repeated in the near future. We are talking about hosting another event soon and offering dance on a more regular basis."

Rev. Sarah O'Donoghue and Bishop Beverley Mason at the afternoon tea and dance.

Meanwhile a service to formally install Reverend O'Donoghue will be held at the church on Sunday, April 7 from 3pm.

Veterans' tea goes down a treat

MORE than 60 armed forces veterans took part in a special afternoon tea organised by older people's charity, Age UK Lancashire.

The event, at Age UK's Wellbeing Centre in Moorgate, Ormskirk, was supported by the Aged Veterans Fund, enabling the charity to invite veterans to enjoy sandwiches and cakes, as well as live entertainment.

Guests enjoyed reminiscing and sharing stories from their time in the forces, with many proudly wearing their medals.

Local supermarkets, Morrisons and Booths, provided raffle prizes for the day and Sainsbury's donated food items and flowers for the tables.

Christine Mottley, Lancashire Older Veterans Team Leader, said: "It was wonderful to see such a great turn-out, with a lot of people actually coming on their own, which can be quite daunting. The positive comments we've received about the event and also the activities available at the centre make it all worthwhile."

Also present were the Mayor of West Lancashire, Councillor Noel Delaney, Age UK Lancashire Trustees and members of the Blind Veterans.

For more details about the Age UK Lancashire Wellbeing Centre ring 0300 303 1234 or visit www.ageuklancs.org.uk.

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The Twinkle House team receive the cheque from Queenscourt Hospice's mascot, Queenie

Hospice fundraisers chip in with four-figure boost for Skem charity

Report by **Danielle Thompson**

AN annual fundraising initiative on behalf of Queenscourt Hospice has also provided a welcome four-figure boost for a West Lancashire charity for youngsters with disabilities and additional needs.

Volunteer fundraisers for the hospice, which cares for patients from Southport, Formby and West Lancs with progressive, incurable illnesses enabling them to achieve the best possible quality of life at each new stage, once again joined forces with Just Helping, a charity that works together with hospices, businesses and volunteers to collect and recycle real Christmas trees and raise money for good causes.

This year they collected more than 1,000 Christmas trees, raising a total of £11,724.01 with the hospice receiving 90% (£10,551.61) and the remaining 10% (£1,172.40) being donated to Twinkle House in Skelmersdale.

Based at Gorsey Place, East Gillibrands the wellness and sensory centre provides free support sessions for children and young people with disabilities and additional needs.

Delighted

The charity also provides a range of sensory rooms and a hydrotherapy pool for all ages, as well as sleep counselling, therapeutic dance, yoga and mindfulness sessions for children and young people up to the age of 19 years.

The money provided by the hospice Christmas tree collection will help to fund the wide range of services that Twinkle House provides, including its hydrotherapy pool.

Pesenting the donation to the Twinkle House team, Rachel Kennedy, Queenscourt Hospice community fundraiser, said: "We're delighted that this year's Christmas Tree Collection has been able to benefit another charity as well as Queenscourt Hospice.

"Twinkle House is a charity that bears many similarities to ours. Like Queenscourt Hospice, it was set up by members of the local community for the local community, and it places a focus on supporting families and loved ones.

"We want to say an enormous thank-you to everyone who helped to make the Christmas Tree Collection such a success."

Nursery pupils visit care home

BRIDGING the generation gap...youngsters from the Holly Tree Day Nursery in neighbouring Billinge paid a visit to the Cardinal Heenan House Care Home in Roby Mill where they enjoyed playing games with and chatting to the residents.

Children from Holly Tree Day Nursery at Cardinal Heenan House Care Home.

Family's distress over call to remove graveside tributes

From Page 1

lights and other ornaments to individual graves to reduce the risk of anyone tripping and falling. It also means that those who maintain the graveyard can do so effectively in every section.

"We know that our graveyard is one of the ways people remember their loved ones and we encourage people to use it as a place of comfort and quiet reflection.

"We ask everyone who has a grave in the graveyard to work together to ensure we are able to keep the whole area as a special place where all our loved ones are remembered and honoured.

"If anyone needs our support, advice or pastoral care following the death of their loved one, I strongly appeal for them to get in touch with me.

"My door is always open to discuss how we can help them through this painful time."

Warning to beware of lottery win scam

A READER has contacted the Champion to warn fellow West Lancs residents to beware of a lottery scam which could result in them becoming victims of identity theft.

The man, who did not want to be named, told us how he received a letter from the 'International Postcode Lottery' telling him that it was "delighted" to inform him that he had won £950,950 after his name was selected by "computer ballot system" from 3,000,000 others from around the world.

Claiming to be run in conjunction with European lotteries and the bank of Australia, to promote the European Union Lottery, the letter advised him to contact them either by a given phone number or by mailing an address in London to arrange to have his winnings posted to him by cheque or bank transfer.

The letter warned him not to go public with the information "to avoid unwarranted abuse of the program or fraudulent acts from criminal-minded and unauthorised persons."

However, a number of spelling mistakes and other typographical errors in the letter didn't ring true and an online search quickly confirmed his conclusion that the letter was a scam.

He told the Champion: "This letter aroused my suspicions as I have never entered a lottery, let alone an International Postcode Lottery.

"These people are clearly now operating in our part of the country. Perhaps it would be a good idea to make this fact known to the rest of your readers, to hopefully save others from becoming victims of what appear to be criminal activities."

In its online advice, Action Fraud, the UK's national reporting centre for fraud and cybercrime, says that such lotteries either don't exist or fraudsters are misusing the name of a genuine lottery.

Action Fraud says: "If you respond to the fraudsters, you'll be asked to supply personal information and copies of official documents, such as your passport, as proof of identity. They can then use this information to steal your identity.

"Once you have provided your personal information, the fraudsters will ask you to pay various fees - for example: taxes, legal fees, banking fees etc. - so that they can release your non-existent winnings.

"Each time you make a payment, the fraudsters will come up with a reason why your winnings can't be paid out unless you make another payment. They'll also give you reasons why the fees can't be taken out of your winnings and have to be paid up front.

"The fraudsters may also ask for your bank details, saying they will pay your winnings directly into your bank account. But if you hand over your bank details, the fraudsters will use them to empty your account."

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Five-figure lottery grant for charity

Report by **Kenny Parker**

The community cafe at Apple Cast's facilities in Newburgh.

OFFICIALS of a West Lancs charity are celebrating after receiving almost £20,000 from People's Postcode Lottery to fund an outdoor classroom where members of the public can learn about the environment.

Apple Cast Ltd. on Cobbs Brown Lane, Newburgh, formed in 2016, supports children and young people who are excluded from school or who can't attend mainstream education for social, emotional or health reasons or disability.

It provides a variety of activities, including working with small farm animals, horticulture, conservation, indoor and outdoor angling, fish-breeding, aquaponics, agriculture and bespoke woodwork shops. The charity also has a number of facilities open to the public, including a cafe and garden centre, which raise money for its work.

Part of the £19,997 grant from the Postcode Local Trust (one of various trusts funded by the PPL) will also be used to help create an outdoor classroom where people can learn about the natural environment and come together for community activities.

Project manager, Resma Patel, said: "We are absolutely delighted to receive a grant from the Postcode Local Trust. The funding will help us to do a lot of community events and activities in the coming year.

"The money will also be used to create an outdoor classroom to host educational activities for the local community. This is part of our wider site development plans which include new sensory gardens, a small animal farm and a one-mile round cycle track. These have been funded by the Lancashire Environmental Trust and the ACT Foundation.

"We are hoping the outdoor classroom, sensory gardens and farm will be completed by the time the summer holidays begin. When we open to the public, we hope to hold workshops and sessions where families can come along to meet the animals and birds of prey, try pond-dipping, learn about the environment and enjoy story-telling circles and sports and cycling sessions.

"The cycle track will be available for disability-accessible cycling and families. We are currently trying to raise funds to buy two special wheelchair-adapted rikshaw-type tricycles, costing £9,000 each."

West Lancs MP Rosie Cooper said: "I'm delighted to hear that Apple Cast Ltd. have received funding from players of the People's Postcode Lottery. This award will make a real difference and I would encourage the local community to make use of the facilities, including the lovely café open to the public."

Ms Cooper is also encouraging any other local groups and charities needing additional project funding to consider applying when the next funding round opens on July 31.

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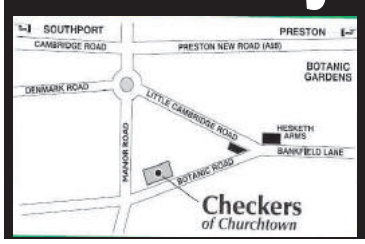

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Teenager's campaign to eliminate 'period poverty' in town

Friends rally round to student's appeal for donations to mark International Women's Day

Report by **Henry James**

Students Emily Dykstra and Shannon Roughley with staff and volunteers from the Birchwood House and some of the donated items they collected.

A SKELMERSDALE teenager is championing an end to 'period poverty' in the town.

As part of her GCSE Citizenship work at Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Engineering College, Emily Dykstra led a campaign among staff and students to collect new sanitary products and underwear to coincide with International Women's Day on March 8.

The collections were then donated to two local charities - The Foodbank at the Ecumenial Centre and the Birchwood Centre in Birch Green.

Emily rallied friends and staff to donate items, as well as contacting school partners, Essity UK Ltd. who kindly donated boxes of Bodyform products for the campaign.

Research undertaken by the Year 11 students estimated that one in 10 girls in the UK cannot afford sanitary products and 12% of girls aged 14 to 21 have resorted to using other items to improvise during their periods.

Although the Chancellor, Philip Hammond in his spring statement announced free sanitary products for girls in schools and colleges, thousands of women are still struggling each month with not being able to afford these items.

Emily said: "I chose to look at this issue because I personally know of girls and women who struggle to afford sanitary protection. We donated more than 2,000 pads and tampons to help women and girls in our community who are in this unfortunate position."

Fellow Year 11 students at the school in Glenburn Road added: "We are happy that this citizenship campaign has raised awareness of 'period poverty'.

"Students, both male and female, are now comfortable with discussing this as a serious issue and are willing to speak out against it."

And Citizenship teacher, Miss Zoe Fox, commented: "As a school we are incredibly proud of Emily's campaign which has had such a positive impact on so many women in Skelmersdale.

"Emily has taken an issue that is very current and is a reality for many in our town and has enabled students to challenge the issue, get their voices heard and actively help others."

The young musicians involved in the project

Album marks successful conclusion of Artz Centre project

THE Artz Centre have been celebrating the conclusion of their 'Off the Record' project for music students.

The year-long project, supported by the Big Lottery Fund, has provided a platform to engage and inspire young people, from a variety of backgrounds and abilities, to get creative and make music.

Whether as already accomplished musicians, or by taking the brave steps to write their first song, the project has encouraged a group of the town's youngest musicians to hone their skills as artists and produce original work to share with their community. And it has been a success for all involved!

Funding from the National Lottery, enabled 24 local youngsters, over a 12-month period, to access a combination of guitar and piano lessons, songwriting workshops and music-based master classes and to receive valuable recording studio experience.

But the benefit and social impact to the young people didn't end there. The project also included two professional 'Live Lounge' performance events, hosted by the Artz Centre, where a selection of the young artists could further showcase their work, music and writing.

These live performance events book-ended the 12 months and were a roaring success showcasing no less than 20 original songs, written by 15 of our local young people.

The pièce-de-résistance comes this week, with the launch of the 'Off the Record' Studio Album. This new, original EP features 15 original songs developed, written and recorded throughout the duration of the project.

Their songs feature a myriad of styles and themes that they were able to explore and develop during their time engaging with the project. Many of the songs featured on the album explore local social issues surrounding mental health, isolation and relationships; as the young people took their perceptions of their local area, and began to craft these thoughts into songs.

A spokesperson for the Artz Centre said: "This is just another example of how the centre is working tirelessly to provide the broadest spectrum of high quality artistic experiences for our local community."

The parking restrictions at the Concourse shopping centre have come under fire from drivers.

Residents voice concerns over parking regime at Concourse shopping centre

Report by **Henry James**

Man accused of exceeding stay by five hours says he was at work at the time!

PARKING restrictions at the Concourse shopping centre in Skelmersdale have been met with concerns from residents in the town.

The Champion has been contacted by shoppers complaining about the Automatic Number Plate Recognition Cameras which are run by the Smart Parking company.

David Radford, from Burncroft has received a letter from debt collectors, which states he owes £172 following a parking dispute at the shopping centre.

Smart Parking issued him with a ticket at the end of last year after they claimed he went over the maximum stay of five hours.

Evidence

However, Mr Radford disputes this, and he claims Smart Parking have no record of him leaving to go to work after less than an hour at the centre.

He said: "I will go to court with this if I have to."

Mr Radford went onto claim: "I was at the car park from 9am in the morning until 20 to 10 when I left. I did return to the Concourse at 7pm though. Smart Parking do not have pictures of me driving out of the centre at 9.40am.

"I have evidence that I was at work from 10am to 5pm from my manager and three other witnesses.

"The fine was originally £60, which I appealed. I lost that appeal so it went to £100. Then I appealed again and have lost that too and have now received a debt collector's letter for £172.

"To actually be parked there from 10am to 5pm is a long time.

"I accept that some people do stay longer than they should, but it is impossible that I was there at the time.

"I want other people to be aware of what is happening. I have heard that other people are in the same situation. I know a woman who received a parking ticket on the day she was in hospital having a baby. These big firms take no notice of ordinary people.

"After this I haven't gone back to the Concourse, and I won't be going back."

Earlier this year, Skelmersdale North Councillor Neil Furey said he had received numerous complaints about £100 Parking Charges Notices which he claims have been "wrongly issued" by the Smart Parking company.

Smart Parking have been contacted for comment but had not responded at the time of going to press.

Easter egg appeal for children's hospices

THE owners of a family-run funeral directors company in West Lancashire are once again appealing for donations of Easter eggs for seriously ill babies and youngsters.

MLS Independent Funeral Directors, which has branches in Aughton and Burscough, has an annual appeal on behalf of Clare House Children's Hospice in Wirral.

And this year the company is also collecting eggs for Zoe's Place Baby Hospice in Liverpool.

Clare House helps seriously and terminally ill children by creating wonderful experiences aimed at bringing back a sense of normality and providing specialist nursing care and emotional support for families.

Meanwhile Zoe's Place provides palliative, respite and end-of-life care for babies and infants aged up to five years suffering from life-limiting or life-threatening conditions.

Eggs can be dropped off at either of the funeral company's premises in Moss Delph Lane, Aughton or Liverpool Road North, Burscough.

For more details or to donate, call 01695 424888 or 01704 891 555.

Archery club's free 'have a go' session hits the target...

A WEST Lancs sporting club hit the target with their latest bid to attract new members.

A free taster session offered by Burscough Archers attracted a grand total of 112 budding bowmen and women to the club's base at Asmall House Livery Stables in Asmall Lane, Ormskirk.

And the decision to hold the event indoors certainly paid off on a day when strong winds and heavy rain were the prevailing weather conditions as last year's record number of 102 have-a-go participants was passed.

The free taster sessions are held with the aim of filling the club's official beginners' courses and the next scheduled one in April is now fully booked up.

However, spaces are still available for later courses which run on four consecutive Sunday afternoons throughout the summer.

Dog walkers urged to keep pets under control around livestock

OFFICIALS of an organisation which represents rural landowners and businesses is urging dog owners in Lancashire to ensure their pets are under control around livestock to avoid the risk of sheep being badly injured or killed during the lambing season.

The Country Land and Business Association says lambing season can be a joyous time of the year for the farming community, but warn that livestock-worrying - when dogs chase or attack sheep - can have serious effects for the sheep, including stress, injury, abortion and death.

It is also a criminal offence and farmers can claim compensation for loss through the courts.

Dorothy Fairburn, director of CLA North, said: "We would advise owners to keep their dogs on a lead or under close control when walking through fields of livestock, particularly sheep, at this time of year, and to always stick to public rights of ways.

"If you live near land with livestock in it, ensure that you know where your dog is at all times, and that your property is secure so your dog can't escape at any time. It is the owner's responsibility to keep their dog under control and we are also raising awareness about the potential consequences of not doing so. Livestock worrying is a criminal offence and a fine can be handed out."

The National Farmers Union (NFU) has reported increasing numbers of livestock attacks costing the agriculture sector an estimated £1.2 million per year. According to an NFU study, 60% of dog walkers admitting to letting their dog roam off the lead whilst walking.

Farmers can claim compensation for any losses caused by dog attacks or livestock worrying. They also have the right to shoot a dog that has attacked livestock, or if it is the only reasonable way of preventing an attack, unless the dog is found afterwards under control, or the owner can be found.

Ambulance staff were attacked by man in hospital

A COURT has heard how a man assaulted two ambulance workers at Southport and Formby District Hospital when they tried to prevent him from leaving before receiving treatment.

Daniel Hampton, 40, of Honeysuckle Avenue, Banks, appeared by video link from HMP Preston at Sefton Magistrates Court on Wednesday, March 20, and pleaded guilty to two charges of assaulting an emergency worker.

Melanie Tomlinson, prosecuting, said that Hampton had been taken to the hospital on November 14 of last year due to ill health. "He was waiting to be seen and he got up (to leave)," Ms Tomlinson said.

"The ambulance staff went up to him to ask him to stay. But they described how, all of a sudden, Hampton turned on them and started swinging punches.

"He did connect with one of the emergency workers to the left side of the head. No injuries were caused but he did feel shock and pain.

"A female colleague tried to intervene. She put up her hand to protect herself and she received punches to the hands," said Mrs Tomlinson.

She added that ambulance staff told Hampton they 'are paramedics and do not expect to be treated like that and to be assaulted for no reason'.

The court was told that Hampton was in custody for another matter for which he is due to appear at Preston Crown Court on Tuesday, April 30.

District Judge Margaret McCormack said the crown court judge could deal with the two assaults and remanded him in custody until the Preston court hearing.

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Man claims he was subjected to homophobic verbal abuse by building site contractor

A SKELMERSDALE man says he was left shocked after being subjected to homophobic verbal abuse by a contractor working on a building site in the town.

Ross Griffiths said the incident happened after he asked the contractor, from logistics and haulage company, Wincanton, to move his vehicle so he could park near to his partner's home in Abbeystead, Digmoor.

The 28-year-old said: "The contractor's vehicle was stopping us getting on to the estate, so I asked him to move it and that's when he started to verbally abuse me.

"I was gobsmacked and taken aback. It was homophobic and I'm worried about going back down there now.

"I can't believe this has happened in this day and age. A few years ago I would probably have let it go, but as I get older I have realised that you must speak up when these things happen. This contractor was trying to intimidate me because of my sexuality."

A spokesman for Wincanton told the Champion: "We have fully investigated this complaint and video footage and multiple witness statements contradict the claims that have been made about our driver's behaviour. Our number one priority is to ensure the safety of our people, our clients and the general public at all times so we take complaints very seriously."

Lions' helping hand for cancer charity appeal

A FUNDRAISING event organised by the tawd Vale Lions Club at the Concourse shopping centre raised more than £850 for Marie Curie's Great Daffodil Appeal.

The appeal, held every March, calls on people to donate and wear one of the charity's daffodil pins to help fund vital care and support for people living with a terminal illness.

Thelma Jones, president of Tawd Vale Lions, said: "Our club members have given their time voluntarily, however it was the generosity of people living in and around Skelmersdale that has helped us raise so much money for Marie Curie.

"We have shared a few laughs with donors about our appearance and shared many stories about families and their friends affected by terminal illness.

"This confirmed to us how important the services provided by Marie Curie are to the community.

"A big thank-you must also go to the Concourse shopping centre management team for their co-operation in enabling this collection to take place as part of the ongoing support given to our Lions Club in the Concourse."

Stephanie Potts, community fundraiser at Marie Curie, added: "Chances are, we all know someone who's been affected by a terminal illness. And it's heartbreaking that not everyone gets the care and support they need to live their final days with dignity, in the place they want to be.

"Whatever your story, donating and wearing a daffodil pin during March unites you with millions of others to help make sure all dying people get the care and support they deserve.

"We're very grateful to Tawd Vale Lions Club for supporting us with our biggest fundraising campaign, the Great Daffodil Appeal. The money raised means that Marie Curie Nurses can be there for more people living with a terminal illness, providing them with vital one-to-one nursing care and support in their own homes."

Members of Tawd Vale Lions raising money for Marie Curie's Great Daffodil Appeal.

Some of the pupils from the Attitudes Dance School who performed at the Liverpool Empire.

Dance school pupils take a step up to the big stage

PUPILS from a Skelmersdale dance school enjoyed stepping out on a big stage when they took part in a special St Patrick's Day performance at the Liverpool Empire Theatre.

The Attitudes Dance School based at The Klub Studio, on Digmoor Parade, includes children who have never been on a stage before.

The event at the Empire, entitled Smile Productions, offered big-stage opportunities to everyone no matter of their ability.

The Attitudes Dance School, which is held every Sunday at the studio, offers classes for children from the age of four upwards and also have classes for adults as well.

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Edge Hill shortlisted for North's University of the Year accolade

EDGE Hill University has been shortlisted in three categories in the Educate North Awards 2019, including the coveted University of the Year category.

Now in their fifth year, the awards aim to celebrate and recognise excellence in the education sector in the North of England.

Edge Hill has been shortlisted for the University of the Year award, which commends the leading higher education institution demonstrating performance across a wide range of factors. It is competing with Newcastle University for the accolade.

In the last 12 months, the university says it has made a huge commitment to innovation and investment in facilities and initiatives such as the Student Journey Project, Student Opportunity Fund and the brand-new Catalyst building are enhancing student experience and employability.

University chiefs say Edge Hill's new Catalyst building (above) is 'enhancing student experience' at the Ormskirk campus.

Innovative

The Catalyst Team have been shortlisted for the Student Experience Award, which recognises a team which puts students at the heart of their institution and "exceeds expectations, delivering outstanding value and experience to students".

Edge Hill says that the university's Careers Service, Library and Student Services teams have worked together creatively and effectively to enhance the student experience.

In addition, the Faculty of Education's Sarah Wright, senior lecturer in Primary Education, has been shortlisted for the Teaching Excellence Award for her innovative work applying technology in her subject, which is making a real difference to students and colleagues *(See Page 19)*.

Edge Hill's vice-chancellor, Dr John Cater, said: "We are delighted to be shortlisted in three categories in the Educate North Awards, including the University of the Year title which comes in the same month as the WhatUni Student Choice Awards' University of the Year award shortlisting.

"These awards are significant and highlight how our focus on students will benefit everyone - the students themselves, the employers who recruit capable and confident graduates, and the people whose lives are improved by interaction with our alumni within a wide range of fields including education, health and social care, business, the professions and creative industries."

The winners will be announced at a gala awards ceremony in Manchester on Thursday, April 25.

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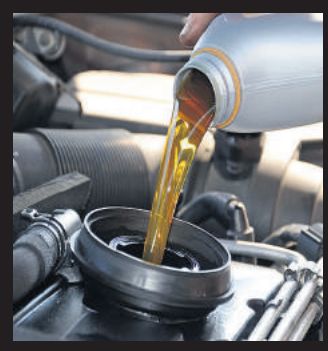

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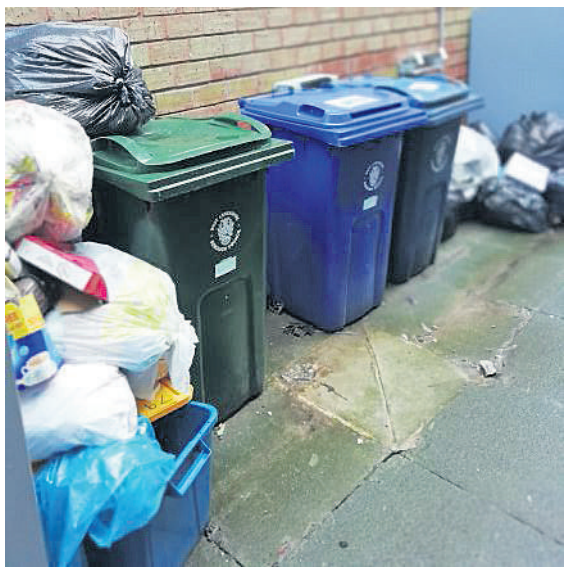
Council tenant says authority took five weeks to shift rubbish from outside his home

Report by **Henry James**

A COUNCIL tenant in Skelmersdale has accused West Lancs Council of taking more than five weeks to remove a pile of rubbish from the side of his home.

And he says that as a result there has been an increase of flies and other insects, particularly during the recent spell of unseasonably warm weather.

Although the rubbish has since been removed from the site in Birkgrig, Digmoor, the man, who did not want to be named, said: "It is outrageous that the council has recently announced a council tax increase of nearly 5% but they hadn't removed this rubbish pile - which isn't mine -for five weeks!"



The resident says this photo of the rubbish pile was taken AFTER collection day.

Problems

And he says it's not the first time the problem has occurred since the council switched to using communal bins.

"We have had similar problems before and I have reported these to several people at the council.

"They spent money on the new bins despite the people in our community saying they would rather stay with the grey bin bags in the bin cupboards.

"And flies and stingy insects recently appeared when the weather was mild.

"We don't have enough bins for cardboards and plastic."

In response a spokesman for West Lancs Council commented: "The council has addressed the tenant's concerns and taken away the rubbish on this occasion.

"Staff will be writing to tenants in the block in question to remind them that they should not leave side waste by the communal bins.

Aware

"Council policy states all waste to be collected from residential properties should be contained within the appropriate bin to help protect staff from injury and avoid any issues with vermin.

"The council is aware of tenants' concerns over the communal waste bins it provides for them and is reviewing these facilities on a block by block basis.

"As each review is undertaken tenants will be provided with an update on any remedial works required to ensure the use of waste collection points is made as easy as possible for tenants."

Neil Rawlinson signs his contract with manager and promoter, Keiran Farrell looking on.

Town's latest recruit to pro boxing ranks seeks sponsors

ANOTHER Skelmersdale boxer is about to enter the pro ranks.

Neil Rawlinson, who is a talented kick boxer and also works as a personal trainer, has signed a three-year contract with manager and promoter, Keiran Farrell.

And the 37-year-old, who is set to operate in the sport's lightweight division, is keen to get his new career up and running as soon as possible with a debut bout planned for the end of April or early May.

He is also hoping to secure sponsorship from any local businesses or individuals who could help in any way.

Anyone interested in sponsoring Neil can contact him on 07546 417 477 or by email at nrawlinson123@hotmail.co.uk.

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CCG rolls out the red bag for borough care home residents

Health chiefs say innovative scheme will ease the stress of hospital admissions for patients and their carers and families

OFFICIALS at the NHS West Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group say care home residents across the borough will benefit from an "innovative" scheme to be rolled out following a successful pilot.

The CCG launched its 'red bag' scheme as a pilot in June last year.

It aims to help support care home residents when admitted to hospital by putting all of their essential items - including key paperwork, medication and personal items such as glasses, slippers and dentures - into one handy red bag.

This is then handed to hospital crews by carers and travels with the patient in an ambulance where it is then handed to the doctor.

And upon discharge all of the patients' items including their updated paperwork is then handed back to the ambulance crew and returned to their care home with them.

Following the success of the pilot at the Cleveland House Care Home in Banks, the red bag has now been rolled out successfully across all 30 care homes in West Lancashire and further afield across Sefton.

Registered General Nurse, Suzanne Wilkinson, with one of the red bags.

Christine Stringfellow, director of clinical services at Cleveland House, said: "The introduction of the red bag has really proven popular amongst residents, their families and our care home staff.

"Prior to its introduction a resident could be required to go to hospital with several bags including medication, paperwork and essential items to make their stay comfortable. The introduction of the red bag has streamlined this process and means that everything a resident requires is placed in one handy bag and stays with them throughout the duration of their stay.

"This process has been really welcomed by family members who previously would have been required to take multiple bags with them when they escorted their loved one to hospital, potentially adding more stress in an already difficult situation. This added stress has now been reduced as they simply take one bag with them."

Dr John Caine, GP and chair of NHS West Lancashire CCG, said: "As well as giving reassurance to patients, the red bag provides hospital staff with quick, up-to-date information and medication requirements for the patient, avoiding unnecessary phone calls.

"This scheme is a great example of how the NHS is integrating care and working in partnership with social care, to ensure that our elderly patients will only have to tell their story once.

"Sometimes it's the personal touch that makes a big difference to patients, especially if they're elderly, and the red bag helps people feel reassured and more at home."

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Former mayor steps down from council to focus on bid to enter Parliament

A WEST Lancs councillor is stepping down from her role in the borough to concentrate on a bid to become MP in neighbouring Southport.

Councillor Liz Savage, Labour's Parliamentary candidate for the resort, will not be standing in May's forthcoming local elections.

A former Mayor and Deputy Mayor of the borough, Cllr. Savage has served as councillor for Skelmersdale's Ashurst ward for eight years.

Announcing her decision, she said it's her "overwhelming belief" a Labour government is needed to improve conditions in the country and so she has decided not to stand in West Lancs but to focus her energy elsewhere.

Instead, she said, she would concentrate on unseating Southport's Conservative MP whom she accused of 'harming' residents with his support for Universal Credit and austerity policies; voting for police cuts and constant attacks on "a local authority that has had nearly £1/4 billion cut from its vital services by his party and the Lib Dems."

Former Mayor of West Lancs Liz Savage who is stepping down from the borough council.

And she added: "Having been raised and schooled in Ormskirk, I've always had strong links with both Skelmersdale and Southport but since moving to Tarleton I have increasingly found that much of my life, work and friendships revolve around the Southport area.

"I wish West Lancs Labour the best of luck in the forthcoming elections. I'd also like to thank everyone who voted for me there and all who have made serving as your representative such a truly rewarding experience.

"I will, of course, continue my links with Digmoor, where I'm a governor at Bishop Martin School."

U3A talk on technology for people with impaired vision

THE next meeting of the Aughton and Ormskirk U3A group will feature a talk and demonstration on technology aimed at supporting anyone with impaired vision to live an independent life.

This will be held at the Scout and Guide HQ building behind Christ Church, off Long Lane, Aughton on Friday, March 29 from 2 to 4pm.

Guest speaker is Andrew Coleman, technical support officer at Galloways Society for the Blind, admission is free and all are welcome to attend.

A spokesperson for the group said: "If anyone reading this item knows someone who would benefit from the information then please tell them all about it."

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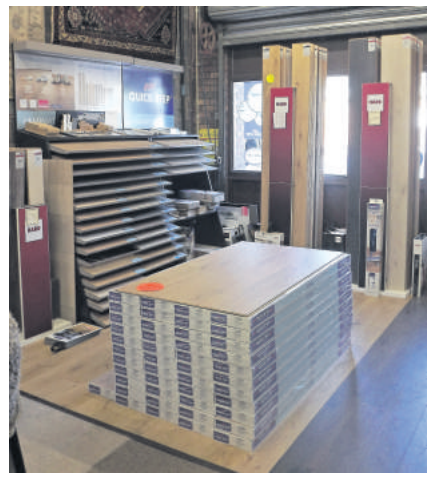

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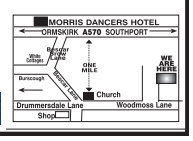

Left: Ormskirk band The Rebels, who were formed in the 1960s, will be among the performers.

Bands will rock the Civic to drum up funds for cancer charity

ORMSKIRK Civic Hall will rock to the sounds of the 60s and 70s at a special charity fundraising event.

Gig4Life, a venture between Cancer Research and local rock bands, has previously featured concerts at The Atkinson in Southport and St George's Social Centre, Maghull as well as at The Civic .

The next 'Rockin' at The Civic' event will be held at the venue in Southport Road, Ormskirk, on Friday, April 12 from 7.30pm till late.

Promising to be a "fabulous evening of fully live rock 'n' roll and pop/rock music" from the 1960s and 70s, the show will feature special guests, The Fabulous Fontaines from Morecambe; NoName The Band, from Southport (including former members of hit 60s band, Rythmn & Blue Incorporated); Louie Louie (nationally known as Shooter); and popular Mersey beat band from Ormskirk, The Rebels.

Compere for the evening will be Mighty FM's Russ Broadbent.

Tickets bought in advance cost £12, and including a hot-pot supper are available from The Civic (tel. 01695 576670) or Hesfords DIY, Morgate, Ormskirk (tel. 01695 572564).

For further information ring or text 07773 337 681 or email Keith Hubbard at keith@jkh-music.co.uk.

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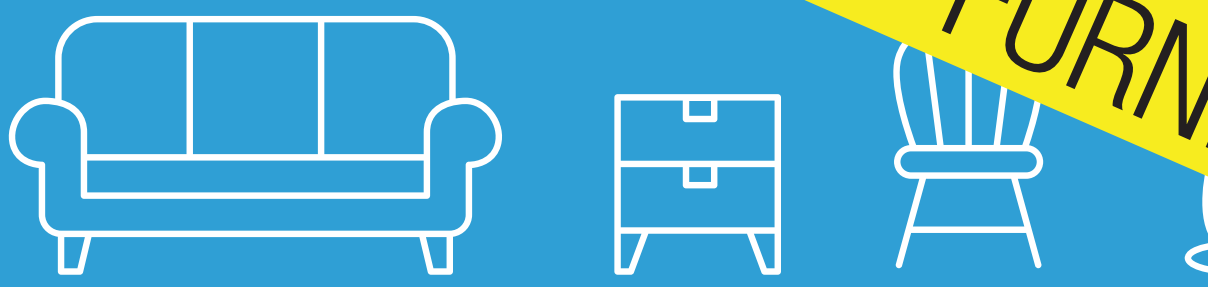

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The people of Burscough deserve better

A DECISIION will soon be made on another housing development in Burscough, 38 dwellings on Red Cat Lane, and drainage will be a key issue given the incidence of flooding in surrounding areas such as Crabtree Lane.

Decision-makers will be informed by 'expert' reports but reading these reports I think it is fair to question their fitness for purpose.

The drainage strategy submitted provides infiltration data from a single test pit extrapolated to the entire site. The single pit was the only one of four test pits dug that did not collapse.

Surely if three of four pits collapse there is the possibility that the one that did not is atypical and any data obtained from it should be questioned? It is not.

Similarly, in determining the height of the water table only one set of measurements was made and as the report states these were taken in June and "followed a 3-month period of relatively dry weather".

As gardeners living in the area will be well aware the water table fluctuates considerably through the year.

The agricultural report concludes that the land should be downgraded from its present Grade 1 to Grade 3a, presumably to allow building. Again this is based on a single sample pit, a pit that is described as having "filled with water to a depth of 60cm below ground level" contradicting the water table height data presented in the drainage report.

Is the purpose of reports such as these merely to tick boxes rather than to provide sound in-depth information for informed decision-making? I have a view, what do others think?

Terry Jeves, Burscough.

Lack of rigour in transport study

THE amended planning application for 38 dwellings on a greenfield site on Red Cat Lane, Burscough is accompanied by a final transport statement.

We are astonished by the lack of rigour in this report. For example, data in the latest transport study appears to be based on the assumption that Red Cat Lane is an average residential road.

It fails to mention the presence of two major visitor attractions, Martin Mere Wildfowl and Wetland Reserve and Windmill Farm, vegetable washing and processing plants, two haulage companies and a major packaging company that together attract coaches, double-decker buses, heavy goods vehicles, tractors and trailers, together with numerous visitors' cars.

Coupled with erroneous details about a non-existent bus stop and a mysterious village-centre Italian restaurant, we are concerned that superficial reports such as this mislead all concerned.

There is no mention of the negative impact of the many extra cars on the notoriously difficult junction with the A59. Surprisingly the report states: "The traffic generated by the site will soon disperse onto a number of different routes close to the site. As such, the impact on any one of these routes will be negligible given the relatively low levels of traffic that will be generated by these proposals. No further detailed traffic analysis is required."

In our view, because it ignores the true nature of Red Cat Lane, the Transport Statement severely underestimates the effect that this proposed development will have on Burscough in general and on Red Cat Lane in particular.

Andrew & Pauline Gordon, Burscough.

Dilapidated Skelmersdale is a town in name only

I HAVE to say that West Lancashire Borough Council have been getting away with murder for years.

Janet Ingman (Letters, March 20) writes about the need for Ormskirk to revamp its bus station - but at least it does have a bus station!

Think of Skelmersdale a few miles down the road and how we have to rely on a private company - the company running the Concourse shopping centre - for our bus station in the town. If the company ever went into liquidation and the shutters were put up at the central shopping centre where would that leave Skelmersdale?

Most probably as it is now, with no central heart. We have no town centre, no hospital, no railway line and station, no Register Office for births, deaths and marriage, nothing in place that would depict Skelmersdale as a town.

What we are in truth is an urban area with a population the size of a town but functioning somewhere along the lines of a large village.

The set-up of Skelmersdale at present is a nonsense, it's not progressing as a town should because we are not in control of our own resources.

The infrastructure of the town is becoming dilapidated, paving stones that have cracked and reported to the council are being replaced by Tarmac, bushes are overgrowing pathways because they are not being cut, all resulting in many areas of the town looking rundown and unkempt.

Skelmersdale is the largest urban area within West Lancashire but you would not believe it when seeing the resources we have.

William Clarke, Waldron, Skelmersdale.

Disappointed by MP's response

I HAVE contacted Rosie Cooper MP regards Brexit, initially by email in November. I find that now the whole Brexit vote has become a joke, each party blaming the other, voting one way and the other just to seem petty.

What I am really disappointed about is that I sent the email to Rosie Copper and finally got a generic response from her constituency office on March 6 - weeks after the initial voting in the House of Commons was to take place.

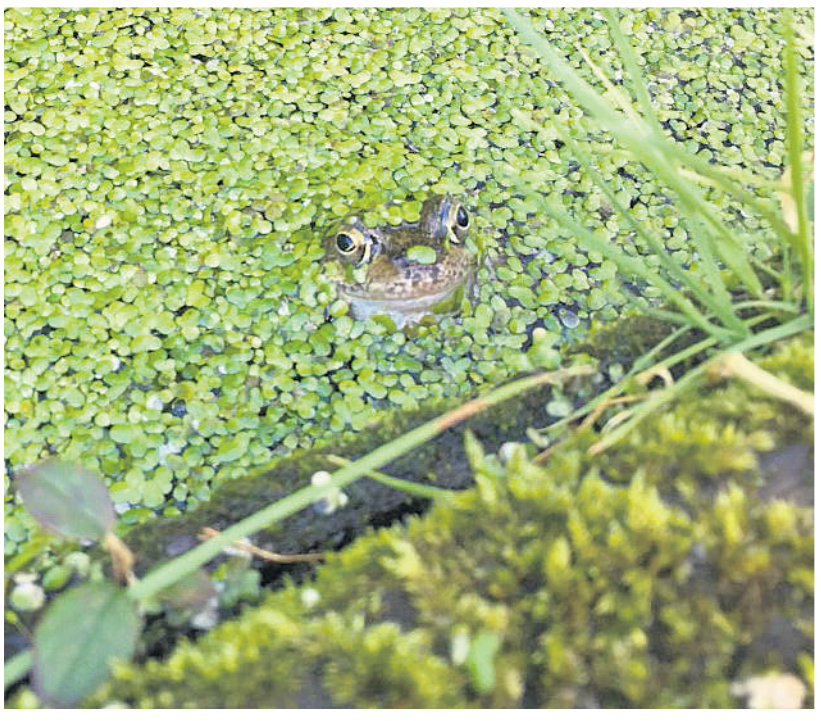
I have emailed back the office and used social media to contact Rosie, again asking her to respond to the questions I asked as Brexit could have a massive impact on my employment, and I do not get any response. The Parliamentary office just say they can pass on my concerns.

Are MP's not supposed to represent their constituents and view of the public?

At this moment the offer we get from Brussels in my opinion is better than a no deal, but what deal have Labour put forward? They just seem to condemn anything put forward without being able to back up their reasons with any alternative plan.

Andy Cunningham, Ormskirk.

PICTURE of the week



This picture of one of a large family of frogs in a garden pond was sent to us by Tom Arnold of Ormskirk.

To submit a photo to be considered for inclusion in our 'Picture of the week' slot, simply email it to editorial@champnews.com. Don't forget to include a caption, together with your name and the area you are from, and mark your submission 'Picture of the week'.

Vote to block a second referendum a let-down

DEAR Rosie Cooper I was deeply saddened to see that you had voted with 16 other Labour MPs to stop a second referendum.

The vote in 2016 was influenced by Cambridge Analytica for the Trump campaign and by Putin's trolls. The evidence is plentiful from all of the social media platforms. They were helped by the Sun, Telegraph, Express and the Daily Mail, all right-wing papers.

You must understand that your actions will lead to job losses among your constituents and they will become poorer. Tariffs and border hold-ups will destroy manufacturing, assembly lines and farming.

You will be on the wrong side of history letting down your constituents to please the far-right.

T. B., Skelmersdale, by email.

Election shock in store for ignoring the people's wishes

ROSIE Cooper seems blissfully unaware that West Lancashire voted overwhelmingly to leave the EU.

She has decided to ignore the wishes of her constituents and has voted at every opportunity against the proposed deal to leave. I don't know if she is voting to stay in favour with her Labour Party leaders or if she expressing her own beliefs.

Either way, she is showing total disregard for the wishes of the people who voted her into Parliament. If she does not want to represent our wishes then she should resign from her seat and let someone who believes in representing the wishes of the majority of voters take over.

I believe she has let West Lancashire voters down and should be ashamed of herself. I think that she and many other MPs who have gone against the wishes of the voters will get a great shock at the next general election.

Les Jones, by email.

Opposing No Deal is upholding democracy

FURTHER to the letter by James Hancock (March 20) who could not understand the resistance to leaving the EU without a deal, first of all the leave campaign during the referendum never at any stage proposed that the UK would leave the EU without a deal.

Farage suggested that the Norway model was a satisfactory option and Johnson promised that frictionless trade would continue exactly as it does at present.

Leaving the Customs Union and the Irish border were hardly mentioned by the leave campaign at all. The UK was promised by Fox the easiest trade deal in history.

So given that no-one suggested that the UK would ever leave the EU without a deal, a WTO/ 'no deal' Brexît does not have any democratic legitimacy. Therefore it is quite correct for politicians to oppose leaving the EU without a deal.

In addition, it is generally accepted even by some Brexiteers that leaving the EU without a deal would be very damaging to the economy.

So James Hancock is incorrect in asserting that our democracy is being undermined by a 'group of fanatical remain rebels who are determined to stop a No Deal Brexit.' In fact, democracy is being upheld by opposing a no deal Brexit.

Dermot O'Hara, a common remainer, Aughton.

Borough's connection to wider region hampered by lack of vision

REGARDING the ludicrous proposals to build student flats on the site of the derelict Ormskirk bus station, the shortsightedness of this whole scheme absolutely beggars belief.

Ormskirk's bus station has for far too long been an eyesore on that part of the town, and the dormant tourism information building is a complete waste of land use.

However, that doesn't mean to say we should turn our back on it and the bus station itself. There is a fantastic opportunity to redevelop this whole site into a major transport hub and give Ormskirk the proper bus station it deserves. At the moment, it - like the buses and trains themselves - is very much stuck in the 1980s (quite literally in the case of the trains).

A proper council with a proper vision would have turned this site into a proper transport hub years ago - Ormskirk's rail station is the second busiest in Lancashire for crying out loud! And considering so many suburbs such as Skelmersdale rely on the buses, it is a disgrace this site is being treated with such contempt.

Our local MPs and councillors have a lot to answer for in this regard. Why do they remain so quiet about the reopening of the Burscough Curves and the new line to Skelmersdale? Clearly, they don't care about public transport, and how important it is in connecting West Lancashire to the wider region.

No doubt they drive around in their Chelsea Tractors and very rarely need to use our public transport system. Because otherwise, they would be championing the reinstatement of train services from Southport to Ormskirk and Preston, and also from Ormskirk to Wigan, via a new curve.

These improvements, along with a brand new transport interchange hub on the site of the current bus station would revolutionise public transport in West Lancashire, connecting more people to more places and therefore improving job opportunities, not to mention improved access to Edge Hill University from surrounding areas.

This is called 'vision'. Unfortunately the people we elect don't have much of a grasp of what this really means.

Bob Jungels, Westhead.

● LETTERS to the Editor can be posted or emailed to the addresses at the top of this page. They should be concise, preferably no more than 350 words, and include the sender's name, address and contact details, although not necessarily for publication. The editor reserves the right to edit all items submitted for favour of publication.

Illustrations display proving a big draw at Chapel Gallery

Council-run venue only one in region to host prestigious event

WEST Lancs Council says a prestigious event at Ormskirk's Chapel Gallery is proving a hit with crowds from far and wide.

The authority-run gallery in St Helens Road is once again the only venue in the region to show the World Illustration Awards exhibition, which runs until Saturday, April 27, and has already attracted visitors from as far away as Edinburgh.

Launched at Somerset House in London, the exhibition is organised by The Association of Illustrators (AOI), in partnership with the Directory of Illustration.

Reckoned to showcase the best illustrators working internationally, the display features a selection of images chosen from a 200-strong shortlist for the award which attracted a record 3,300 entries from 75 countries.

One of the illustrations on display at Ormskirk's Chapel Gallery.

This annual survey of the best illustrations globally explores where illustration is now, where it is heading in the future, and showcases the 'legends' of the industry who continue to inspire new generations of artists.

Visitors who have already seen the exhibition have told staff how much they have enjoyed it.

Art fans from Edinburgh were impressed with the gallery as a whole, and commented: "What a find! A beautiful gallery with world-class exhibitions. We'll be back." Another visitor said: "I travel from Manchester to see this show here each year. It never disappoints!"

Nick Clancy, a programme leader on a BA (Hons) Illustration with Animation course at Wirral Metropolitan College, brings a group of undergraduates to see the show each year. He said: "The AOI World Illustration Awards exhibition at the Chapel Gallery is an important opportunity in the academic year for my students to see Illustration work which would not normally be shown outside of London.

"It is always innovative and exciting."

John Harrison, the council's director of development and regeneration, said: "The council is delighted to hear these great comments about this marvellous exhibition at the Chapel Gallery. We hope many more people will come to enjoy the event."

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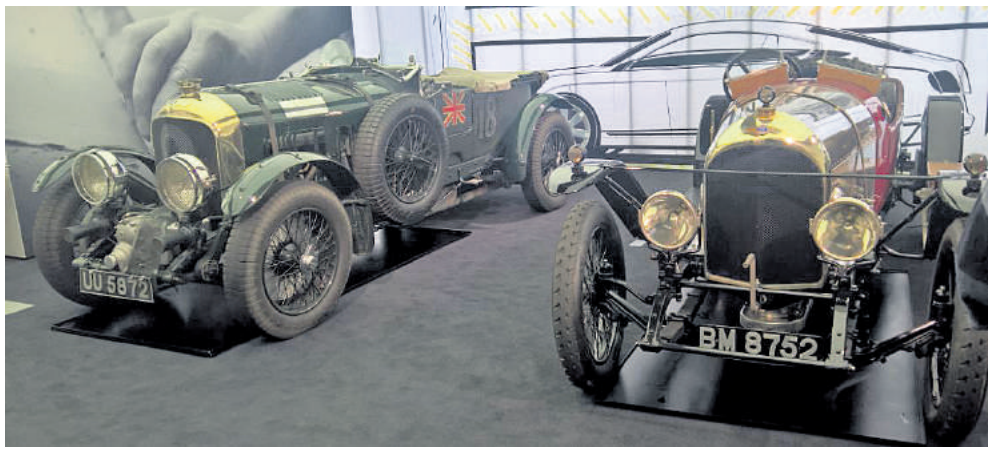

Two classic Jaguar models. This year's Ormskirk MotorFest will celebrate 70 years since the launch of the Jaguar XK120, the fastest production car in the world when it was built.

MotorFest 2019 will celebrate special milestones in British motoring history

Owners of Bentleys, Jaguars and Minis invited to take part in special parades and displays at popular summer spectacular

ORMSKIRK'S MotorFest will be celebrating significant anniversaries in British motoring history when it returns this summer - and organisers are looking for owners of Minis, Bentleys and Jaguars to get involved.

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the first Bentley being built; the 70th birthday of the Jaguar XK120 - the fastest production car in the world when it was built - and also the 60th birthday of the Mini.

2019 is also the 60th anniversary of the 1959 British Grand Prix at Aintree, which was the first time a British Racing Partnership entry had finished in the top three of a Grand Prix.

To celebrate these milestones MotorFest organisers are looking to put on special parades and displays featuring Minis, Bentleys and Jaguars at this year's event scheduled for Sunday, August 25 and are encouraging owners of those cars to take part.

Meanwhile general entries are still open for MotorFest and organisers are keen to encourage race and rally cars of all types. For details of how to enter visit www.ormskirkmotorfest.com.

Ormskirk MotorFest is one of the biggest free family events in the North West with huge crowds expected to enjoy the range of cars, motorcycles and other vehicles on display.

The event is organised by Aintree Circuit Club and supported by West Lancs Borough Council.

Mike Ashcroft, chairman of Aintree Circuit Club, said: "We have some really exciting plans to celebrate some marvellous milestones in British motor racing history at the Motorfest and this would be a great opportunity for owners of Minis, Bentleys and Jaguars to take part in these celebrations and show their wonderful vehicles to a wider audience."

And West Lancs Council leader, Councillor Ian Moran, commented: "The magical MotorFest is set to return to Ormskirk on August 25, so make sure you put the date in your diary whether you are planning to enter your vehicle in the event or just come along and enjoy the displays."

Aintree Circuit Club is offering cash prizes as an extra incentive to anyone thinking of being a marshal at MotorFest and other similar motorsport events by providing an opportunity to win cash prizes.

First prize is £250, second prize is £150 and third prize is £100. Conditions apply, including the need to help out at least seven other motoring events.

To register as a marshal for the 2019 Ormskirk MotorFest visit www.ormskirkmotorfest.com. Marshals attending Motorfest will also continue to be paid a flat rate for expenses and receive refreshments.

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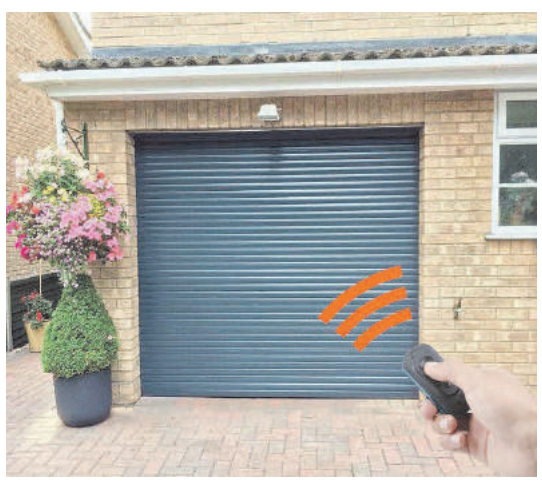

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University digital project shortlisted for teaching excellence award

A PIONEERING digital project has put Edge Hill in the running for recognition in the Teaching Excellence category of The Guardian University Awards 2019.

The Ormskirk university has been shortlisted for its #TELMe - An innovative approach to education technologies with staff and students, project created by senior lecturer in Primary Education, Sarah Wright.

The project looks at how innovative technologies can be introduced to students and staff to boost productivity and creativity in practice.

"It is really easy to assume that students arrive at university as complete wizards with technology but the reality is they don't," said Sarah.

"I wanted to give students a chance to get to grips with technology in a safe and fun environment."

Students can benefit from the project in two ways. Firstly, through their own studies where technology can help save time, help materials be more accessible and develop all important organisation skills.

The Edge Hill team which has been shortlisted for The Guardian University Awards 2019 in the Teaching Excellence category.

And secondly it also benefits their classroom practice, as it will help students become innovators and big thinkers.

Grateful

"When I found out we had been shortlisted for this award it felt surreal," added Sarah.

"I am so grateful to be able to put our students in the spotlight for going the extra mile. They work incredibly hard and it's great that their successes can be shared."

The Teaching Excellence award recognises an outstanding teaching initiative that inspires student learning and attainment through innovative pedagogy, and places teaching at the forefront of the university's mission.

The awards ceremony will take place in London on Wednesday, April 10.

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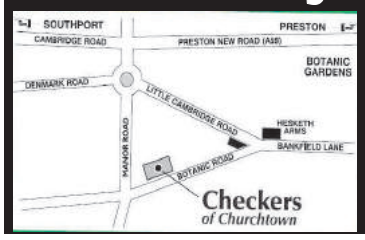

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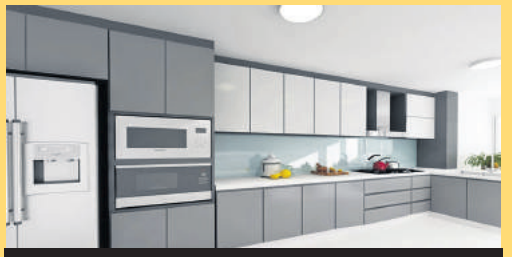

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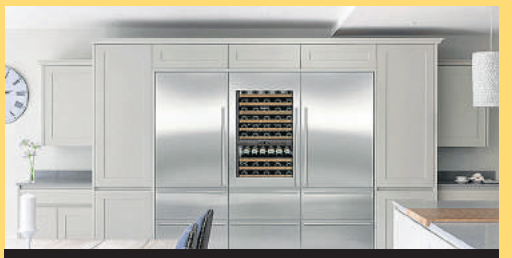

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Emily lands dream job with famous film and TV studios

A STUDENT from West Lancs has bagged a dream job with the UK arm of the famous Warner Bros. entertainment company - thanks to the skills she acquired during her degree at Edge Hill and the university's partnership with the Production Guild of Great Britain.

Emily-Beth Roscoe, a final-year Television Production Management student, always knew she wanted to work in film and television, so when the opportunity arose for to have a chat with Guy Barker, financial controller and chair of the Production Guild, she jumped at the chance.

And she said: "I got the job by keeping in touch with Guy and was then invited to Warner Bros. Studios to meet the team."

The 22-year-old from Rufford will begin her role as a production accountant based at Warner Bros. studios in Leavesden, Hertfordshire when she graduates in July.

Production accountants track the finances involved with a film and are responsible for paying any outstanding invoices and informing the production crew of any leeway in the budget.

A regular visitor to Edge Hill as a child for sporting and swimming events, when it came to choosing which university she wanted to attend, it was the obvious choice for Emily.

"I have watched Edge Hill grow and move from strength to strength. The facilities on offer in Creative Edge are brilliant. I also love my course which is fabulous to narrow your mind into what specific area you want to work in within film and television and the lecturers are super-supportive and understanding."

Emily's introduction to Warner Bros was made possible due to the partnership between the Production Guild (PG) and the Edge Hill's Television Production Management (TVPM) degree.

Programme leader, Perelandra Beedles, said: "TVPM joined forces with the PG at the beginning of the year. This collaboration not only offers a professional guild membership for students but also includes important networking opportunities with film and television production recruiters.

Emily-Beth Roscoe from Rufford who has landed a job with Warner Bros. studios.

"When Guy Barker, the guild's financial controller, came in to speak to our third-year cohort about his experience working on films including *Mission Impossible*: *Fallout* and *Dunkirk*, he was immediately impressed with Emily. The skills she has gained as part of her degree made her ideally suited for a role at Warner Bros. he was about to recruit to.

"Television production managers are in short supply within the broadcast industry and as the only degree programme in the UK focusing just on this specialism, our students are increasingly being lined up for work to start as soon as they graduate.

"Needless to say, we are incredibly proud of Emily and look forward to watching her progress."

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Commissioner gets first-hand report on success of constabulary apprenticeship scheme

LANCASHIRE'S Police and Crime Commissioner Clive Grunshaw has heard first-hand from an apprentice on how working within Lancashire Constabulary is helping him develop his skills and career opportunities.

The commissioner met with Jack, who is currently completing his level 3 business administration apprenticeship while working in the vehicle maintenance department at police headquarters in Hutton.

They talked about Jack's day-to-day work and his studying, while a member of the team highlighted the impact Jack had made while working within the department.

Jack said: "It was good to talk to the commissioner about the work I am doing as part of my apprenticeship. The fact I am able to start my career, earn money and make a difference whilst I gain new skills is a really good opportunity."

Mr Grunshaw commented: "Apprenticeships provide a great opportunity for those who want to take an alternative path into policing and it has been really good to hear first-hand Jack's experience during his time with the force so far.

"It's great to hear how he is learning key skills which will benefit his long-term career, whilst making a positive impact now to the work that Lancashire police do to keep people safe."

Village campaigners' award for marsh project champion

by **Danielle Thompson**

A CHARTERED civil engineer has been recognised for his role in creating the Hesketh Out Marsh.

Richard Shirres, who retired from the Environment Agency last year, was awarded a *Love Hesketh Bank* badge by Hesketh with Becconsall Parish Council for his efforts in championing the marsh project.

The *Love Hesketh Bank* campaign was launched by the parish council on St Valentine's Day in 2014 to recognise people who have made an outstanding contribution to the village.

Mr Shirres was the technical specialist for the 160-hectare Hesketh Out Marsh East Managed Realignment scheme, which took five years to restore the original saltmarsh and open up the outer bank to let the sea back in.

The project, one of the biggest of its kind in the country, won a best practice award.

Richard said: "It is a multi-functional asset, a wildlife habitat that works with the new, more robust, flood bank to protect local homes and businesses from flooding.

Richard Shirres at Hesketh Out Marsh.

"These coastal realignments are needed all around the UK but are simply not happening at a pace to even approach targets set for 2030. Yet this is precisely the sort of work we should be racing to achieve because of climate change.

"The Hesketh Bank community is very lucky to have this wonderful asset not just for the here and now but for the future. Already climate change signals are clear. This February is perhaps the hottest one ever recorded. If the message for the younger generation can seem bleak, instead here within this wider community a 'can do' dialogue can be struck up because of the Hesketh Out Marsh works."

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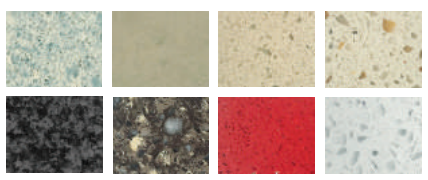

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College careers fair attracts 1,500-plus

Report by **Henry James**

TO celebrate National Careers Week and National Apprenticeship Week, West Lancashire College hosted an Interactive Careers and Progression Fair.

Opening the doors of the Skelmersdale campus to more than 1,500 local school pupils as well as their own students, the event created an opportunity for young people from the local area to engage in activities with more than 70 employers, organisations and universities from a wide range of sectors.

Visitors had the opportunity to find out about new careers, talk about their future options and view the wide range of apprenticeships and job vacancies on offer.

Employers from across the North West attended on the day providing a range of interactive activities. Companies represented included Peel Ports; Graylaw Freight Group; Hotter; NSG Pilkingtons; Optical Express; PCS Care; Holland Hall; The Vella Group; Virgin Care; Southport and Ormskirk NHS Trust; Generation Medics; Kenyons; Specsavers; St Richard's RC Primary School; West Lancashire Borough Council; MCL Resourcing; Walkers/PepsiCo; Mellors Catering; Job Centre Plus; Home Instead; Burrows Lane Farm and Wigan Warriors.

Local pupils pictured with representatives from Peel Ports at the careers fair at West Lancashire College.

Representatives of a number of North West universities were also on hand to provide information to students and pupils on the range of opportunities available after college. These included UCLan, Edge Hill University, University of Chester, University of Cumbria, University of Chester, Liverpool John Moores and the FutureU team.

Denise Williamson, principal of West Lancashire College said: "We were delighted to once again host the Interactive Careers and Progression Fair. Raising the aspirations of young people and unlocking potential through learning with apprenticeship and vocational education are at the heart of what we do at West Lancashire College.

"The fair was a truly collaborative and inspirational event with the college, schools and employers working together to stage a fabulous extravaganza of careers opportunities and hands-on activities.

"To see more than 1,500 young people being both curious and engaged in their potential future careers was so rewarding.

"A big thank-you goes to our learners, local schools and employers who made this event so successful."

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By entering this competition your details will be passed to Ableworld Southport who will contact you with a one off special offer following your entry.
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Young reader strikes gold

FOUR-year-old Harry Archer (pictured, right) is the latest member of Skelmersdale Library to hit the gold trail.

The Orrell Newfold Primary School pupil has successfully completed the Lancashire Reading Trail Challenge by reading 50 books. To mark his achievement he was presented with a book of his choice and a gold certificate by staff at the library in Southway.

The Lancashire Reading Trail is a county-wide reading challenge that encourages children up to the age of 12 to read more.

For further details about the reading trail and how to get involved, go to www.lancashire.gov.uk or pop in to your local library.

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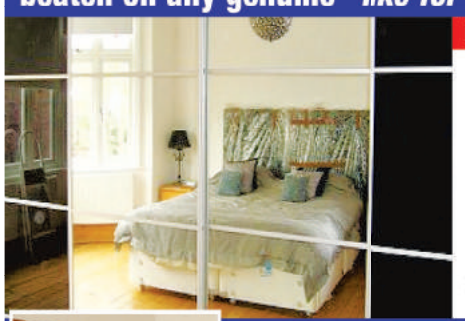

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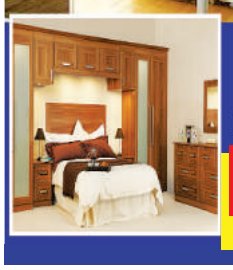

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Parties clash over proposals for future residential care of county's elderly and disabled

Report by **Henry James**

THE Labour group on Lancashire County Council have accused the authority's Conservative leadership of putting the residential care of elderly and disabled people in the county at risk.

But the authority's cabinet member for adult services dismissed the claims as "a monstrous and disgraceful distortion of the truth."

Labour say that previously the council has stepped in to provide places in residential homes with qualified staff for those people who become severely disabled or too elderly and infirm to look after themselves. But they claim that is about to change as a result of the council's budget proposals for 2019/20 with the emphasis on keeping people at home based on financial cuts by the council not the person's care requirements.

They say more than £3million will be removed from the budget for residential care over the next four years with £77 million of cuts to the council budget in 2019/20 due to the 60% reduction in central government funding.

In addition, elderly people face an increase of 14% in home care support charges, a 15% increase in day centre charges, home maintenance services being stopped and a reduction in carer staff support.

County Councillor Jean Parr.

County Councillor Graham Gooch.

County Councillor Jean Parr, Labour spokesperson on adult care services, said: "These savage cuts will put the onus on families to provide care for their elderly and disabled relatives. Many family members will have to give up work to do this, putting at risk their ability to pay the bills. What is worse is that it will hit the women of Lancashire the hardest of all.

Vulnerable

"Many elderly people would want to stay at home surrounded by their family friends and their own lifetime of memories.

"This is no way to treat vulnerable people when they need us the most, making them the problem rather than providing them with the respect they deserve and the support they need."

County Councillor Graham Gooch, cabinet member for adult services, responded: "Labour's comments are a monstrous and disgraceful distortion of the truth about what older people want and the service they are being offered by Lancashire County Council.

"The truth of it is that the Labour Group are entirely bereft of ideas for social care so just sit on the sidelines and criticise everything the council is doing, with little regard for the truth.

"The Labour group has just become a wrecking crew with nothing constructive to say. This was admirably demonstrated at the last cabinet meeting when Councillor Fillis denounced a scheme being discussed as a 'Tory cut' and had to be reminded that it was a scheme started under his Labour administration!

"It was an earlier Labour administration that closed down dozens of old people's homes and sold them to the private sector; it was the last Labour administration that wrecked children's service within two years of taking office; it was the last Labour administration that left us with a £200m deficit to manage - and we have."

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County council backs bid to recruit more LGBT+ foster carers and adopters

LANCASHIRE County Council has pledged its support to a campaign which encourages people from the LGBT+ community to consider fostering or adoption.

County Councillor Susie Charles, Lancashire's cabinet member for children, young people and schools, said: "We have many same-sex couples in Lancashire who are providing stable and loving homes for children and young people who cannot live with their own families.

"But we always need more foster carers and adoptive parents from all walks of life, and I want to remind people that we welcome applications from people of all ages, single, married, cohabiting, in same-sex relationships, with or without their own children, working or not.

"To be considered as foster carers or adoptive parents, people need to be over 21, and living in or close to Lancashire."

A package of support is available 24/7 to help foster carers in their role, including local support groups, their own social worker, a dedicated helpline and flexible training.

Flexible training

Out of hours support for foster carers is available via a dedicated helpline staffed by experienced social workers.

Training is flexible including during school hours, evenings and weekends and online training, and can be tailored to the needs of any child.

To find out more about fostering or adoption, ring 0300 123 6723 or visit the website www.lancashire.gov.uk/adoption or www.lancashire.gov.uk/fostering.

Watchdog's report seeks young people's views on health and wellbeing

Report by **Henry James**

HEATHWATCH Lancashire, the public voice for health and social care in the county, has published a report that captures the views of more than 3,600 young people around their health and wellbeing.

The report comes as part of a six-month-long project to give service providers insight in to what health and wellbeing issues are of concern to young people and what they think and feel about the services they receive.

Results show the biggest worries for young people are experiencing a mental health condition; self-harming; concerns about their self-image; and taking drugs.

Respondents said that spending time with their family helped them to stay happy and healthy while suggested recommendations included more and better quality mental health services; to be listened to by health services and at school or college; and to have better access to health information and advice, such as how to find a therapist or getting information on eating disorders.

The project saw staff and volunteers from Healthwatch Lancashire and Healthwatch Blackpool engaging with 3,614 young people in a variety of settings and groups including McDonalds, young people's forums and at local colleges.

Amanda Higgins, senior engagement officer at Healthwatch Lancashire who led on the Young People's project, said: "Healthwatch Lancashire is here to make sure all people in our communities are listened to and this project amplifies the voice of our young people.

"This report identifies areas where health services, or access to these services, can be improved for our communities.

"The young people's voice will enable us to challenge local health providers, using this significant intelligence to suggest that things do indeed need to be improved."

The full report, *Young People Have Their Say*, can be read and downloaded online at https://bit.ly/2TAssNwb

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Council's Building Control team wins national recognition for quality of service

WEST Lancs Council's Building Control team has been recognised by a national body as providing a high-quality service.

The Building Control Team operates the system which seeks to safeguard the safety of people and buildings across the borough.

Local Authority Building Control (LABC), the national umbrella organisation representing local authorities' building control bodies, has been working on setting up a single quality management system for the entire network.

The aim is to ensure all people working in professional practice in the field have shared standards and practices to provide clarity across the country.

West Lancs Council Building Control committed to supporting this initiative and staff formally embarked upon the process of achieving the LABC-recognised ISO 9001:2015 accreditation.

Building Control manager, Lol Aitchison receives the certificate of accreditation from John Harrison, the council's director of development and regeneration services.

Training

The team was externally audited by Alcumus ISOQAR, an organisation which ensures bodies meet standards required for internationally-recognised management system frameworks.

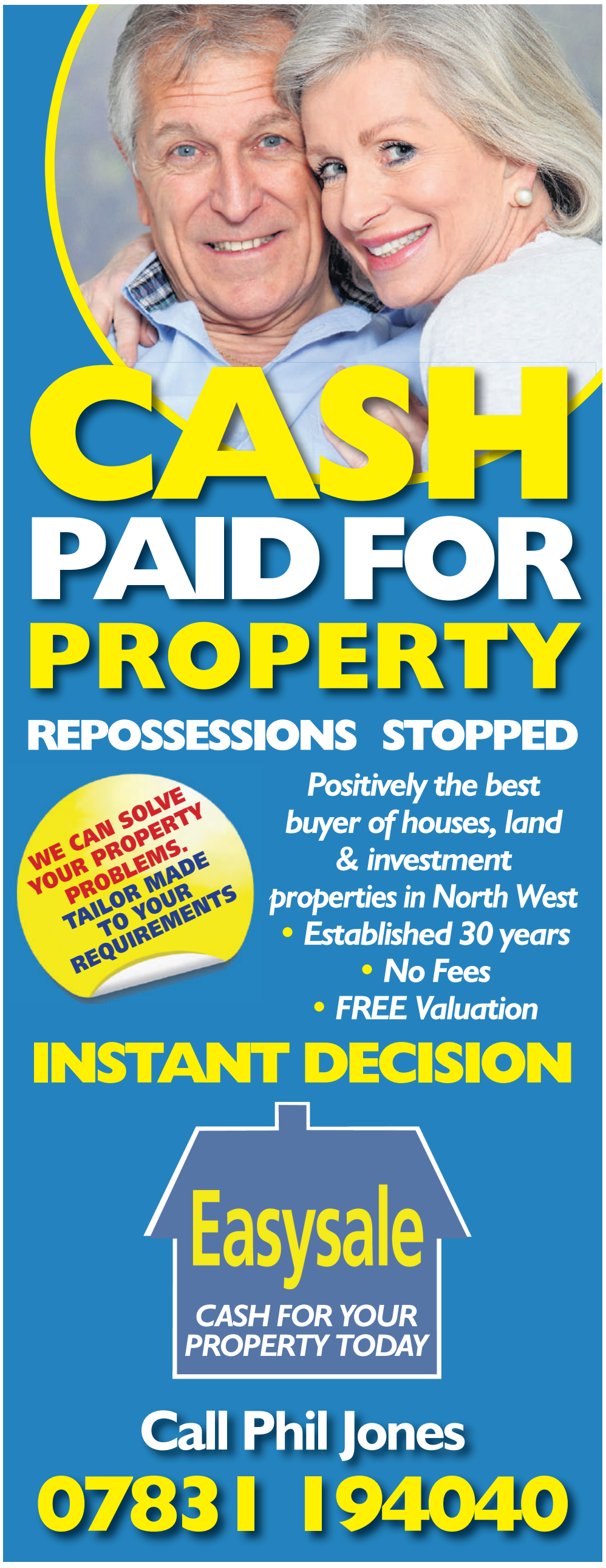
They did this along with nine other authorities from the 90 authorities undertaking this phase of the accreditation. As a result of these audits the team demonstrated full compliance to the International Standard for Quality.

Every aspect of building control has been subject to audit, from leadership of teams to individual commitment of team members.

Controls to ensure smooth running of processes and tasks including training, competency, dealing with dangerous buildings and demolitions were also addressed.

The team demonstrated full compliance to the International Standard for Quality and were awarded United Kingdom Accreditation Service (UKAS) Accredited ISO 9001:2015 Certification.

Council leader, Councillor Ian Moran, said: "Congratulations to the team on this excellent achievement which is recognition of the high standard of service they provide and the important work that they do."



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Rush to embrace electronic future costly in more ways than one

I SPEND quite a long time each week waiting at bus stops and, with nothing better to do, I tend to spend it - believe it or not - thinking.

And just yesterday I got to thinking about babies and bathwater and kings and their new clothes. What started this off was my antipathy towards our rush to electrify everything in sight now with everything having to have software (whatever that is) before it attracts any interest at all.

In particular, two recent happenings brought this on. The recent tragedies with Boeing 737s inexplicably falling from the skies, and the less-disastrous, but extremely annoying disruption to rail services.

In the case of the latter the very late introduction of brand new 'Azuma' trains on the East Coast main line was because their electronics interfered with signalling systems. And services on a commuter line in London have had to be halved because its new trains simply don't work properly and are now more than a year late entering service. They apparently have had 30 software upgrades and yet still stubbornly won't go.

The king's new clothes? I rather think so if you still think this is 'just progress'.

Meanwhile Boeing too, having grounded all the planes affected, are looking at problems with 'software'.

In all this I am not a Luddite. Back in the 1960s I remember writing a story for a local newspaper about the howling success when British Rail introduced their 'ton-up' electric expresses between Liverpool and London. The difference was of course that they used tried and tested systems that worked straight out of the box.

But there is a downside even to this. Should a diesel train break down, another can easily be dispatched to rescue it. If, though, the overhead power lines are brought down either by weather or the train's own pantograph, then everything is at a standstill, often for hours, while repairs are effected. Modern, and quite possibly correct safety rules mean you cannot just still use the remaining unaffected tracks to bypass the problem.

And then we have the rush to introduce all-electric buses. This is going ahead quite quickly in some parts of the country, despite the head honchos of both Stagecoach and First having the courage to come out and say that at the moment it is economic madness and that the technology is not yet ready for everyday use.

Somewhere in Europe - I can't remember exactly where - a company running express coaches was persuaded that this too could become an all-electric success. It hasn't. Not because the vehicles don't work, but because they are slower in their journeys and have to wait far longer at each end to be recharged. The really daft bit is that now the company has issued new timetables for the service - one for journeys using conventional diesel coaches, and one for those with planet-saving electric ones.

A case of babies and bath water perhaps?

I would certainly (though sadly) agree that the future is electric and electronic. But this headlong rush to attain electronic Utopia is fraught with cost and problems - some unhappily apparently fatal. And I think that perhaps we are deliberately overlooking for instance the vast and rapid progress that has been made to clean up modern diesel units, so much so that vehicles so equipped can easily pass current pollution laws. All I am asking is that we shouldn't dash into things just because they are new.

Perhaps we could save the babies from going down the plughole and avoid the king being seen in the altogether if we made haste slowly.

I know this flies in the face of those who want to 'save the planet' at almost any cost - but cost it is, usually in the form of the pound in your pocket for unhappy commuters and passengers, but occasionally - and tragically - at the cost of lives.

Bakers aim to raise 'dough' for brain tumour charity

A POPULAR canine cartoon character is helping a craft bakery chain with a shop in West Lancashire, to raise 'dough' towards a brain tumour cure.

To mark Brain Tumour Awareness month in March, Greenhalgh's Bakery is supporting the Brain Tumour Research charity with a special edition Scooby Doo biscuit.

Inspired by the charity's signature colours, the biscuit features Scooby in a fabulous pink-and-yellow collar.

The long-established family bakery will donate a portion of the proceeds from every biscuit sold and they will be available to buy during the last two weeks of March.

The Scooby snacks can be found in every Greenhalgh store including Burscough Street, Ormskirk.

Staff at Greenhalgh's will also join in the UK's premier brain tumour awareness event *Wear A Hat Day* on Friday, March 29. The national event sees hundreds of schools, workplaces, and individuals don their hat of choice and stage hat-themed fundraising events in support of Brain Tumour Research.

Sandra Ogden, Greenhalgh's retail sales & marketing director, said: "We are passionate about supporting Brain Tumour Research, all of our retail shops and office staff are getting behind wearing a hat for a day.

"And a selection of Scooby gingerbread pink & yellow biscuits are going on sale in our shops and we will be making a donation for every one sold."

Andrea Pankiw, community fundraising manager for Brain Tumour Research in the North West, added: "We're delighted to have Greenhalgh's support for Wear A Hat Day and look forward to sampling the Scooby snacks ourselves."

University researchers discover the key to veganism conversions

RESEARCHERS at Edge Hill University have discovered what might encourage people to go vegan.

Professor Claire Parkinson, Dr Richard Twine and Naomi Griffin from the university's Centre for Human Animal Studies carried out a year of research funded by The Vegan Society.

They found that non-vegans were more likely to go vegan (i.e move to a plant-based diet avoiding all animal foods) if they saw positive health messages and/or had friends and family who were vegan.

The study also revealed that the moral position on veganism was more likely to result in a longer-term commitment to the lifestyle.

Professor Parkinson said: "The research revealed that non-vegans were more receptive to health messages about veganism than to environmental or ethics messages.

"It also showed how important family dynamics are in establishing and maintaining food practices."

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22/12/20	Canaries Christmas & New Year's Eve Funchal Fireworks	15	£2,299pp
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04/05/21	Islands of the Mediterranean (Adults only)	18	£2,499pp
05/06/20	A Voyage with Remote Spitsbergen	16	£2,499pp
06/11/20	Idyllic Islands of the Caribbean (Adults only)	32	£3,699pp

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ADVERTISING FEATURE

Picturesque Parbold

Parbold Douglas Primary School is a wonderful village school where every child is valued and supported. They pride themselves in developing effective learners in a positive environment and will nurture your child and develop their strengths within a strong Christian ethos.

Queen of Aesthetics provides a wide range of treatments to the very highest standard, going that extra mile to make you feel pampered from start to finish and happy in your own skin. Have a look at Linda's Facebook page for inspiration, the before and after shots are amazing! Gift vouchers are available and Linda is always happy to advise on the treatment that will give you the results you are looking for. The salon is also a Training Academy for anybody looking to get into the Aesthetics industry.

Situated in the centre of Parbold near the railway crossing is **Reynolds Butchers**. This tiny butchers with a big heart uses locally sourced meat and prepares everything in-house, from home-cured bacon, sausage and ready-to-cook meals like Teriyaki Beef and Piri Piri Chicken Stirfry. They've also developed their own gluten-free, 2.5% fat Slimmer's Sausage. With 500 followers on Facebook and across-the-board five star ratings (including from Environmental Health), their customer base is rapidly expanding and they now offer a home delivery service in the surrounding areas.

Set in beautiful surroundings **Our Lady and All Saints Roman Primary School** know how important parents decisions are when choosing their child's primary school and have succeeded in providing a happy vibrant school where children can flourish in all areas and are encouraged to achieve their full potential.

Excellent service and attention to detail are comments that stand out from the online reviews received for **AJ's Barber Shop**. AJ's offers hairstyling and grooming services that are individually tailored to every client, as well as a bespoke male wedding party package.

Silhouette Creative Hair Design has been firmly established in Parbold for over 25 years and Karen, Jane, Lisa, Kieran and Shelly are well known for providing a friendly, professional service. The salon offers a wide range of hair care services including cuts, blow-drys and colours. With different offers every month and a new one coming out in April call in and see what Silhouette can do for you.

The Stocks Tavern is a quintessentially English pub and restaurant set in the heart of Parbold village It might have been built in the 1800's but was re born in 2017. Following an extensive refurbishment, they now offer a warm and welcoming atmosphere complemented by friendly and attentive staff. They source local sustainable produce from the best suppliers ensuring you receive only the best dining experience. The Stocks is the perfect place to relax, enjoy a glass, have a nibble, or just unwind in front of the fire. Offering you a warm Lancashire welcome, they look forward to serving you soon.

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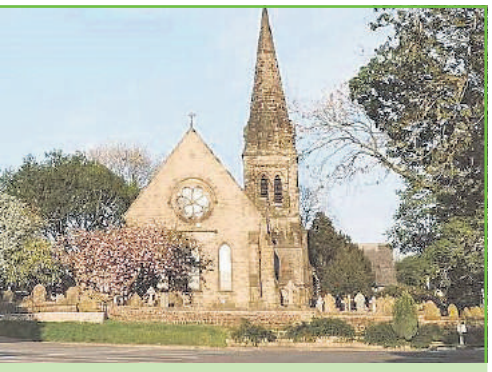
Christ Church Parbold

Welcome from Rev. Sue Timmins

'Welcome to Christ Church Parbold. We're a warm and welcoming church with a place for everyone, whether confident in faith or just wanting to explore more. We're on a journey as a church and we don't get it right all the time but we do enjoy learning more about God together. Christ Church is a Church of England (Anglican) Church.



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Parbold, the picturesque village on the Leeds Liverpool canal, is easily accessible by rail or car. The heart of the village remains centred around the canal which was completed in the late 1700s. There is a great sense of community, stunning views and a wide range of independent shops, many of which have been serving the village for years, though there are some lovely new editions as well...

Previously the Post Office, this building laid empty for 2 years before locals Steve and Karen took it on. Following an extensive refurbishment, **The Old Post House** opened its doors in March 2018. Now celebrating one year in business they have an extensive and varied menu for you to try. From breakfasts and brunch, to lunches and an imminent tapas menu, you are sure to find something to tickle your taste buds. If you are looking to pop out for a coffee and a chat with a friend, or relax with a gin and tonic or a glass of wine from our extensive menu, The Old Post House welcomes you to join them.

The owner of **Sarah Glynn Photography** says: "I'm Sarah and I absolutely LOVE shooting weddings! It makes me insanely happy and I feel so lucky to be part of these amazing life events capturing the story with a sprinkle of magic in there too. I also love being a family photographer because I get to make loads of friends and learn tons about parenting (I'm not even kidding). I shoot mostly documentary, but of course I'm happy to do groups and some seriously awesome creative stuff too. I am constantly doing family shoots in and around the Parbold area - it's got endless fantastic locations and you will always see me around Fairy Glen, The Christmas Tree Fields, along the canal and down the road at Windmill Animal Farm. Not only are these amazing locations but it's a great way to promote how awesome this area is and raise awareness of things to do for families.

In a beautiful setting, high on the hill above Parbold village, **Christ Church** is well worth a visit. Whoever you are and wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, there is a place for you at Christ Church. They are a warm and welcoming Evangelical C of E Church with services and activities for all age groups such as their popular bell ringing group, weekly coffee meetings and worship, crafts and games. There's so much going on, you're sure of having a great time and enjoy being at the heart of the community whilst meeting new friends along the way.

Vanity Fur are a dog grooming salon based at 38 Broadmead Parbold. The salon is a state of the art, newly built, fully air-conditioned summer house containing all of the essentials and more. Owner and Head Groomswoman Kym and her team are committed to providing you with a professional and warm service. Their aim is to always provide the best groom for your wishes and your furry friend's needs. All breeds and needs are catered for including the nervous, young and old who will all be lovingly pampered whilst in their care. Vanity Fur offer a one-to-one service so that your dog is always attended to – they run a strict no cage policy meaning your pooch will never be left in a cage whilst waiting to be picked up and are given free run of the garden to play with the toys or rest after their pamper.

In the heart of Parbold Village, **Parbold Deli** is your local shop for fresh bread, cooked meats, cheeses, cakes, soups and pies. They also offer freshly made sandwiches to order and cater for buffets for any special occasion.

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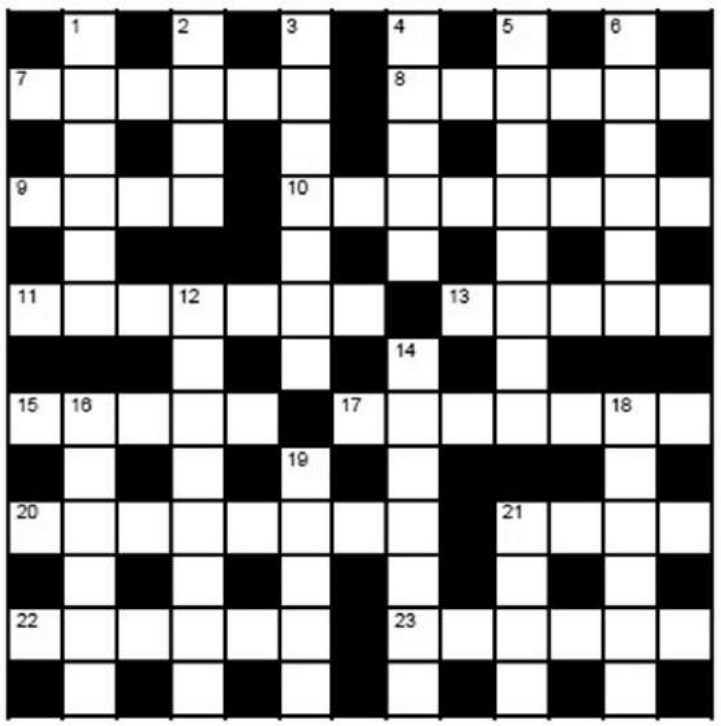

Last week's solutions:

Across: 7. Way out. 8. Hearth. 9. Hers. 10. Hong Kong. 11. Unguent. 13. Ruler. 15. Bondi. 17. Oratory. 20. Starling. 21. Gaff. 22. Fun run. 23. Elapse.

Down: 1. Baleen. 2. Nous. 3. Etching. 4. Whine. 5. Bankrupt. 6. At once. 12. Underarm. 14. Trigger. 16. Output. 18. Refuse. 19. Piano. 21. Gnaw.

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ACROSS

7. Flaw, fault (6)
8. Astounded (6)
9. A fragrant cream or liquid used to heal or soothe the skin (4)
10. Legendary, fabled (8)
11. Thick or padded cover placed over a pot to keep a beverage warm (3, 4)
13. Light-headed, dizzy (5)
15. Midday meal (5)
17. Chemical element, a soft silvery metal, atomic number 69 (7)
20. Also known as a continental glacier (3, 5)
21. An open pastry case containing a sweet or savoury filling (4)
22. A network of interconnecting rabbit burrows (6)
23. Without difficulty or effort (6)

DOWN

1. Be cautious and alert to risks or dangers (6)
2. A microorganism, especially one which causes disease (4)
3. Present as a list of individual items (7)
4. Excessive speed or urgency of movement or action; hurry (5)
5. Relating to or occurring in a family or its members (8)
6. Be a sign that something is about to happen (6)
12. Excessively confident, conceited (8)
14. Talk informally (7)
16. Naked (6)
18. Disorderly, rowdy (6)
19. Financial resources (5)
21. Throw in a light or casual way (4)

Village school celebrates swimming trophy hat-trick and excellent SATS results

Report by **Kenny Parker**

Making a splash . . . the winning swimming team from Halsall's St Cuthbert's CfE Primary School.

A LITTLE school making a big splash in more ways than one.

That's the proud claim of staff and pupils at Halsall St Cuthbert's CE Primary School - and they've got the awards to prove it.

The school in New Street recently celebrated retaining the West Lancashire Small Schools' Swimming Competition trophy for the third year in succession.

In the competition at the Nye Bevan pool in Skelmersdale the boys relay team won gold while the girls relay team took silver.

And it's not just in the swimming pool that the school excels.

Pupils were also congratulated on being in the top 1% in the country in the latest Year 6 national test results (SATs) in a letter from Secretary of State for Education, Damian Hinds.

Amazed

The Mayor and Deputy of West Lancashire, Councillors Noel Delaney and Gaynar Owen, enjoyed a tour of the school and were amazed by the pupils' Space Exhibition in the school hall and the display of writing.

Speaking about their swimming triumph, headteacher, Doug Scholes, said: "The team performed brilliantly. We had two individual golds and we were very strong in the relays. It's great to retain the cup for a third year.

"The event was superbly organised and it really gives children the chance to show their talents."

With regards to the commendation from the Secretary of State, he was keen to stress that the school values a more rounded experience rather than just academic success.

He said: "Our results are outstanding every year but it's not just about SATS and standards. Primary school life is much more than that.

"It's about a broad curriculum full of science, foreign languages, creative art and design, humanities, PSHE, etc.

"We try to make school life as much fun as possible and children's learning experiences as exciting and memorable as possible.

"It takes a lot of time and commitment but it's worth it."

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Members of the People's Vote West Lancashire campaign marching in London.

Local campaigners join People's Vote march

WEST Lancs supporters of the People's Vote campaign were among the estimated one million people who marched in London last weekend calling for a vote on the final Brexit deal.

Leaving the borough at 6.30am on Saturday (March 23) the coach picked up campaigners from Ormskirk and Skelmersdale who were keen to make their presence felt in the capital later in the day.

Volunteer team leader from People's Vote West Lancashire, Ken Lamden, said: "It was a long day, made longer by a diversion off the motorway on the way home, but our efforts were rewarded by seeing West Lancashire represented at this historic occasion.

"We couldn't get near to the speakers because of the huge number of people who attended but it was just being there that counted.

"We hope the march will influence MPs to agree on a deal that's tied to a referendum. And if that happens hopefully our efforts will have played a small part in achieving it."

Call for more women plumbers

OFFICIALS of a national register for plumbers are appealing for more women to join the trade.

With less than 1% of UK plumbers currently being female, staff at WaterSafe are seeking to highlight the attractions of plumbing as a career choice combining job satisfaction, a decent wage and skills that are always in demand and not to be put off by the outdated stereotype that it is better suited to men.

The organisation is encouraging female plumbers to become WaterSafe-approved, which reassures customers that they are trained to work safely with their drinking water.

Julie Spinks, director of WaterSafe, said: "These days there's nothing a male plumber can do that a female can't.

"And our research shows that many women and elderly customers in particular welcome the chance to employ a female plumber in their home."

To find out more, visit watersafe.org.uk/becomeaplumber.

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Mother's Day Sunday 31st March

Thank you to all the children who sent us a picture of their Mum...

Picture by **ELEANOR SOUTHERN**
AGE 5 - Aughton

Picture by **VERITY SAVILLE**
AGE 7 - Tarleton

Picture by **LAYLA KEATING**
AGE 7 - Southport

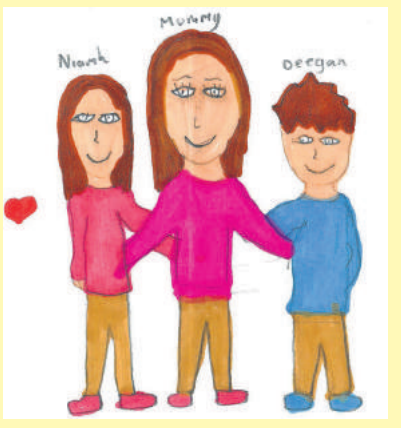
Picture by **MAISY McLOUGHLIN**
AGE 5 - Southport

Picture by **ROSIE ANDERSON**
AGE 8 - Burscough

Picture by **THEO GRAHAM**
AGE 6 - Formby

Picture by **SOPHIA MOORHEAD**
AGE 10 - Southport

Picture by **NIAMH LEA**
AGE 9 - Southport



Picture by **SOPHIA LEONARD**
AGE 7 - Skelmersdale

Picture by **JODIE JOYCE ROBERTS**
AGE 9 - Southport

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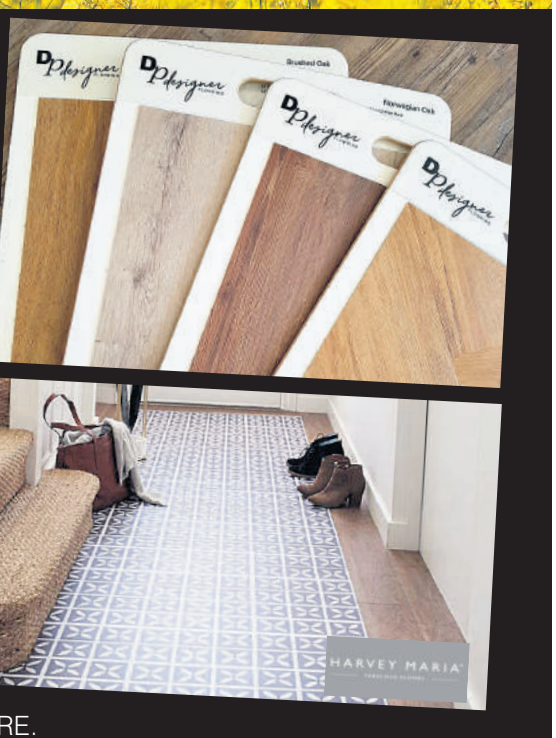

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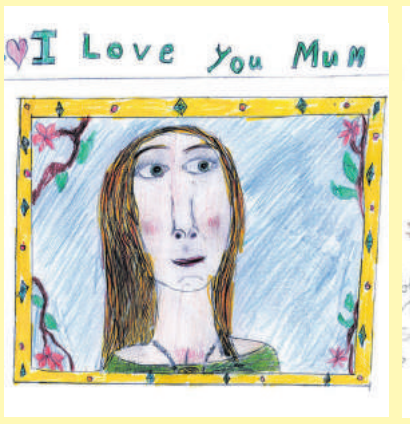
Mother's Day Sunday 31st March

We have been overwhelmed with the talent of our local kids!

Picture by **KRISH KATHIR-GAMANATHAN, AGE 8** - Wigan

Picture by **MAISY TAYLOR AGE 6** - West Lancashire

Picture by **ESME ANDREWS AGE 9** - Southport



Picture by **AARON ROLLINS AGE 6** - Southport

Picture by **HENRY JAMES CHESWORTH, AGE 6** - Upholland

Picture by **MAISIE CASPENENTI AGE 11** - Southport

Picture by **LILLIA KAVANAGH AGE 7** - Southport

Picture by **IRIS RAYNOR AGE 4** - Southport

Picture by **VICKY XUE AGE 10** - Southport

Picture by **AMELIA BORRILL AGE 5** - Southport

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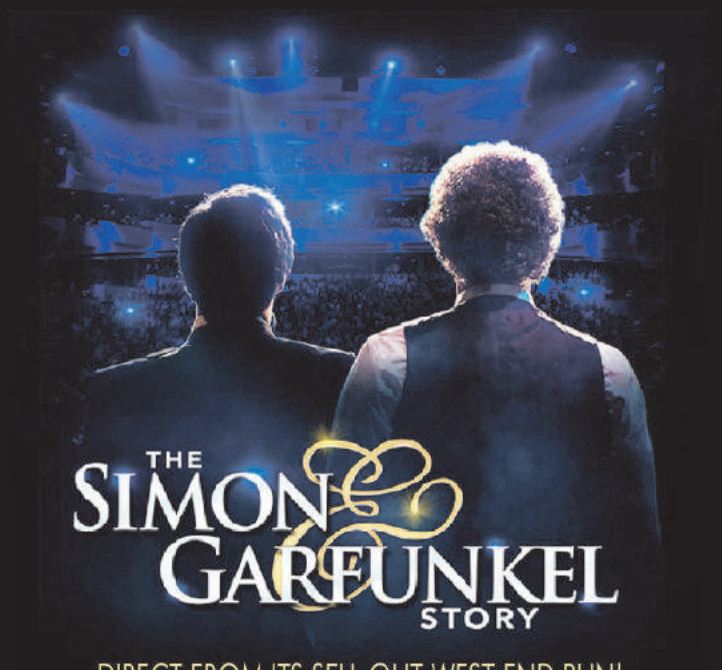

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Mother's Day Sunday 31st March

We have published as many portraits as we can, can you find yours?

Picture by **BOBBY BENSON**
AGE 6 - Southport

Picture by **BELLA DAVIDSON**
AGE 7 - Ormskirk

Picture by **LEAH PHYSICK**
AGE 10 - Skelmersdale

Picture by **ADAM GALLAGHER**
AGE 7 - Ormskirk

Picture by **LOTTIE BADGER**
AGE 11

Picture by **RUBY ANDERSON**
AGE 6 - Burscough

Picture by **HANNAH ENGLISH**
AGE 10 - Southport

Picture by **ISLA**
AGE 9 - Southport

Picture by **OSCAR DURAN-SMITH**
AGE 5 - Ormskirk

Picture by **HAZEL SAUNDERSON**
AGE 6 - Skelmersdale

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Mother's Day Sunday 31st March

Look out for our prize-winners in next week's Champion

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AGE 6

Picture by **BARTUS**
AGE 4

Picture by **KOURTNEY**
AGE 8

Picture by **EMMA MORENO**
AGE 7

Picture by **OLIVIA WRIGHT**
AGE 7

Picture by **ALISHA GLEAVE**
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Picture by **ARYA HUGHES**
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Picture by **MARTA**
AGE 7

Picture by **PATRYCIA**
AGE 7

Picture by **GRACE STANCOMBE**
AGE 4

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Comedian starring in play about British actor

MILES Jupp, one of Britain's leading stand-up comedians and revered actors (Mock the Week, Balamory, The News Quiz, Rev, The Durrells), stars in The Life I Lead about British actor David Tomlinson in the Floral Hall Ballroom on the Waterfront.

Best remembered for playing Mr Banks in Disney's classic film Mary Poppins and Professor Emelius Browne in Bedknobs and Broomsticks, David Tomlinson was renowned for playing the classic English gent: forthright, proper, and a loveable fool.

See the Life I Lead at the Floral Hall Ballroom at the Waterfront on April 6 at 7.30pm.

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Tue 2nd	Skipton, Embsay Railway & Bolton Abbey inc guide	£28.00
Thu 4th	Ullswater Cruise & Ambleside via Kirkstone Pass inc	£25.00
Fri 5th	Emmerdale Studio Experience inc admission	£32.00
Sat 6th	Dumfries, Moffat & Gretna Green	£23.00
Sun 7th	Cadbury World inc admission	£30.00
Tue 9th	Colwyn Bay & Llandudno	£15.00
Fri 12th	Skipton Market & Harrogate	£17.00
Sat 13th	Bangor on Dee Races inc admission	£22.00
	City of Cambridge	£23.00
Sun 14th	Emmerdale – The Village Tour inc admission	£44.00
Wed 17th	Steam Yacht Gondola, Coniston & Ambleside inc cruise	£26.00
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Sat 20th	Keswick Market	£19.00

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Internationally famous musicians performing together for first time

PARBOLD Douglas Music is to present the unique and exclusive event of two internationally famous musicians, cellist Natalie Clein with pianist Peter Donohoe performing together for the first time in the Auditorium in the Village Hall WN8 7DN on Saturday, April 6 at 7.45 pm.

Earlier this month news came that Natalie's pianist for her Parbold concert was unavailable. A search began for another pianist.

At the same time Peter Donohoe was in Parbold in early March to play a concert. He immediately volunteered to work with Natalie.

Messages flashed across the globe to Australia, the USA where Natalie was touring, and finally to the UK, and that is how this pairing of the cellist virtuoso, Natalie Clein and one of the foremost pianists of our time, Peter Donohoe, came into being.

Their programme will include Rachmaninov's Cello sonata, one of the most famous romantic pieces, composed at the same time as the popular Second Piano Concerto.

Australia's Sydney Herald reviewed Natalie's recent performances as "a near flawless evening of 24-carat music-making... the evening's spectacular highlight: Rachmaninov"s ferociously demanding Sonata - From the first bar it was an astounding, boundless performance, worth its weight in gold."

Born in the United Kingdom, Natalie Clein came to widespread attention at the age of 16 when she won both the BBC Young Musician of the Year and the Eurovision Competition for Young Musicians in Warsaw.

Described by the Times as 'mesmerising' and 'soaringly passionate', British cellist Natalie Clein has built a distinguished career, regularly performing at major venues and with orchestras worldwide. Natalie is a Professor at the Royal College of Music London and Music Academy Rostock.

This will be Peter Donohoe's second visit to Parbold in only a matter of weeks and he will return again with Martin Roscoe later in April for the two-piano Gershwin concert.

Peter Donohoe CBE was born in Manchester and educated at Chetham's School of Music.

In the years since his unprecedented success as Silver Medal winner of the 1982 7th International Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow, Peter Donohoe has built a world-wide career, encompassing a repertoire and more than 40 years' experience as a pianist, as well as continually exploring many other avenues in music-making. He is acclaimed for his musicianship, versatility and technique.

Concert tickets are £18 for adults and £5 for young persons and students.

Peter Donohoe

To book or order tickets go online to www.parbolddouglasmusic.org , or e-mail: tickets@parbolddouglasmusic.org or telephone: 01257 498452 (booking answerphone). A limited number of standby tickets are always available at the Box Office on the evening of the concert.

The two musicians will present an "inspiring" programme. As well as the Rachmaninov they will perform Ralph Vaughn Williams's pieces based on English folk tunes, the early twentieth century English woman composer Rebecca Clarke's Sonata for viola and piano, and Brian Elias's L'innominata.

Chance to see top psychological thriller

Report by **Ron Ellis**

Dangerous Obsession by NJ Crisp

THE Southport Dramatic Club's next production is Dangerous Obsession by N.J. Crisp.

The action takes place in the luxury home of a couple called the Driscolls. Sally Driscoll is watering the flowers in their conservatory when a stranger appears at the door claiming to know them. At first he seems pleasant enough but is he all he appears or will his visit change their lives forever?

Alice Burns plays Sally Driscoll, Kyle Harrison-Pope her husband, Mark, and Ted Bullen is John Barrett, the mystery visitor.

This classic play is often acclaimed as one of the top three psychological thrillers of all-time, alongside Sleuth and Dial M for Murder. Certainly one not to be missed.

Produced by Adrian Miles-Roberts assisted by Simon Hawkins, the play runs from Friday, April 5 to Saturday, April 13 at 7.30 each evening. Book at the Southport Little Theatre Box Office Tel. 01704 530521/530460

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Southport Dramatic Club

a psychological thriller by N.J. Crisp

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directed by Adrian Miles-Roberts

5th - 13th April 2019

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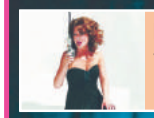

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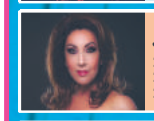

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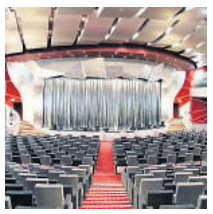

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Wed 8th May	Bury's World Famous Market	£14.70 - £11.00
Mon 27th May	Skipton on Market Day	£15.75 - £11.80
Wed 29th May	Chester City or Zoo (Coach Only)	£15.00 - £11.25
Fri 31st May	Bourton on the Water & The Cotswolds	£21.80 - £16.50
JULY		
Wed 24th July	Ambleside & Grasmere	£17.75 - £13.30
Thurs 25th July	Bakewell & The Derbyshire Dales	£18.25 - £13.75
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HOUSE AND HOME

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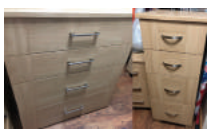

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HOUSE AND HOME

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VACUUM CLEANER Dyson DC27 upright bagless, animal, all floors, gold-bronze, can deliver £45 07925 188189

CABIN BED Cabin Bed with wardrobe. Excellent condition. 3 drawers and desk. Light pine in colour. £180 ono 07762 298762

HOUSE AND HOME

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HOUSE AND HOME

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HOUSE AND HOME

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DOUBLE DUVET Cover, pillow cases and 72x66 inch curtains with 3 inch header tape. Pale green,blue,lilac stripe, reverse lilac with small pattern 07933740677

MAHOGANY ANTIQUE Gentleman's chair with gold velvet, corner unit, lovely 4ft inlaid extendable pedestal dining table, four bubble back chairs £185 0151 9292025

BATHROOM ACCESSORIES Various gold plated accessories, tumbler holder, soap dish, shower baskets, towel rail, shelf, extending shaving mirror,etc. £45 07759374064

SOFA & CHAIR Rattan 2 seater sofa and matching armchair. Cream velvet chenille fabric excellent condition. Sofa W180cm Chair W82cm £150ONO Collection only 07719491642

NEXT BEDDING Next girls pink bedding etc. Duvet curtains lampshade canvas prints cushions. Only used in grandparents home. Excellent condition. £25 only! 01704577481

HOUSE AND HOME

INDIA RUG India hand made rug 100% wool size approx 298x202cm mixed colours and design Smoke and pet free home excellent condition 0151 2849148

INDIA RUG India hand made 100% wool rug approx. 298x202cm mixed colours and design excellent condition £149. Smoke and pet free home 0151 2849148

CLASSIC STANDARD FLOOR LAMP in dark wood design light coloured shade excellent quality and condition from John Lewis £85 ono may deliver 01515263851

HERITAGE GOLD SHOWER/BATH MIXER and matching basin taps, unused £100. Tudor gold basin taps, 3 sets at £25 each. Buyer collects 07933 578795

DISPLAY UNIT Next light oak display unit. Dimension H145cms W102 D32. As new space needed. Excellent condition. Cost £325 accept £100. 07966764826

OFFICE DESK Very well made with nice gloss white top and silver legs looks very nice we have 4 matching £50each 07741206449

MISC

DRAUGHTMANSHIP BOARD Quick sale, moving house.Reasonable offers.01695574428

PORCH AWNING Royal Porch Awning complete with Poles and pegs £45.00 01704893683

CARAVAN COVER Caravan roof cover 15ft9"x9ft5" £20 01704893683

CARAVAN AWNING Spacemaker Caravan Awning Low 84/118 £45 01704893683

ISABELLA AWNING Isabella caravan awning 14ft Red & Green £55 01704893683

CRYSTAL VASE Royal Brierley heavy patterned lead crystal vase 8" high £25 07704 785755

YAMAHA PORTATONE PSR-74 Electronic keyboard, good condition £45 01704 560518

VIDEO CASSETTES The world at war narrated by Laurance Oliver from 1933-1941 01704 461083

PORTABLE BBQ BBQ Beauclaire portable gas. very good. in one carry case £40 01704 214151

BEREAVEMENT ITEMS large mixture, quantity, ideal for car boot sellers. Prices from £1 to clear 01704 538504

MISC

CLARK COMPRESSOR Clark Air Compressor Single Phase Model SE8AR 150 PSI £55 01704893683

DYSON HOOVER Dyson city 26 multi floor cylinder hoover as new, £100.00 or offers 01695 572830

CHICK BROODERS We have 8 Square chick brooders for keeping chicks warm £100 the lot 07741206449

PERFUME BOTTLE ORNAMENTAL Heavy hand blown glass in blues and greens by Jane Charles £40 07704 785755

LADIES HOODED three quarter length casual weather proof coat size 14 excellent condition may deliver £12 ono 01515263851

AFRICAN HAND Carved mahogany canoe 24 x 5 inches. Hand painted designs, nice table centerpiece (bread, chocolates etc.) £25 ono 07704 785755

LADIES DAY 2 Tickets for Princess Royal Stand Ladies Day at Aintree, Friday 5th April. includes seats and private bar £230 ono 07790 898275

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9CT ROSE GOLD RING diamond and pink sapphire cluster ring, size P, £450 ono 01704 539651

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WHEELCHAIR SELF propelled in very good condition hardly been used £55 07741206449

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LOMAX WHEELCHAIR in good condition, strong and lightweight, well made, folds for easy storage £45 ono 0252 4765215

SHOPRIDER MOBILITY scooter ex condition 408mph good types battery charger recently serviced £399ono 01704 874346

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TRANSIT WHEELCHAIR solid tyres, folds for transport, good condition, can deliver £55 07925188189

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3 WHEELED mobility walker, locking hand brakes, solid tyres, can deliver £30 07845529249

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TRANSIT WHEELCHAIR four small solid tyres, fold with cushion, can deliver £55 0151 2850080

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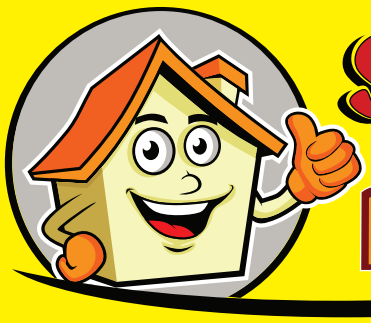

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NEW LANE
- New Lane

AUGHTON
- Barnes Road, Convent Close, Gore Drive, Redcliffe Gardens

NEWBURGH
- Ash Brow, Clovelly Drive, Cobbs Brow Lane, Doe Meadow, Ranleigh Drive, Smithy Brow, The Hawthorns
- Acrefield, Doe Meadow, Pine Close, Tabbys Nook, Woodrow Drive

SCARISBRICK
- Bescar Brow Lane, Bullens Lane, Church Garage, Jacksmere Lane, Southport Road

DIGMOOR
- Bankfield, Banksbarn, Blythewood

TAWD BRIDGE
- Crossfield Road, Daniels Lane, Digmoor Drive, Hurlston Avenue, Ormskirk Road, Scarth Park, Top Acre Road

ASHURST
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- Lambourne, Larkhill, Lyndhurst

BIRCH GREEN
- Inglewhite
- Inskip, Inskip Court, Irwell

ELMERS GREEN
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PUBLIC NOTICES

THE TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

Notice is hereby given that Lancashire County Council proposes to dispose of the land described in the Schedule below, which is Open Space within the meaning of Section 336 of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990.
The disposal is to be by way of a sale.
A plan of the land it is proposed to dispose of may be inspected at the County Council's office at County Hall, Preston PR1 8XJ during normal office hours.
Any objection to the proposal must be made in writing to the Head of Estates at PO Box 26, County Hall, Preston PR1 8RE before 4th April 2019.
SCHEDULE
ALL THAT piece of land at Fairlie, Skelmersdale containing 1.54 hectares approximately.

www.lancashire.gov.uk

Lancashire County Council

LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(LIVERPOOL ROAD, BICKERSTAFFE, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2019

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Lancashire County Council have made an Order under **Section 14(1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit traffic on the roads set out in this notice.
1. No person shall cause any motor vehicle to proceed over that length of Liverpool Road, Bickerstaffe from Long Lane to Church Lane.
2. The prohibition will be operative from 0930 hours on 28th March 2019 until 1500 hours on 28th March 2019 or until completion of the works within this period. Access will be maintained whenever or wherever possible. Access for school buses will be maintained.
3. An alternative route for vehicular traffic affected by the closure is via:- Liverpool Road – Cunscough Lane – Prescot Road – St Anne's Road – Aughton Street – Park Road – St Helens Road – Ormskirk Road
The temporary prohibition is necessary to allow carriageway works to be carried out.
Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White, Network Regulation Manager, Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701 [Ref: HRiT/16713/EW]

Lancashire County Council

Some schools are excluded as commitment is on an individual basis.

Apply online at: www.lancashire.gov.uk/vacancies

THE LANCASHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(WEST LANCASHIRE SPRING TRIATHLON, ORMSKIRK, WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2019

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Lancashire County Council have made an Order under **Section 16A of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984**, as amended, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit any motor vehicle or cycle from proceeding over the following lengths of highway in the Borough of West Lancashire;
1. No person shall cause any vehicle or cycle (apart from those participating in the Triathlon) to proceed over the following lengths of highway, in the Borough of West Lancashire, as set out below;
i. School Lane, from its junction with Vicarage Lane to its junction with Whiteley's Lane,
ii. Ruff Lane, from its junction with Vicarage Lane to its junction with Scarth Hill Lane,
iii. Whiteley's Lane from its junction with Scarth Hill Lane to its junction with A577 Wigan Road (Lathom),
iv. Vicarage Lane in a North East and Easterly direction from its junction with Ruff Lane to its junction with School Lane,
v. Ruff Lane in a South Easterly direction from its junction with Beech Meadow to its junction with Vicarage Lane
An alternative route for vehicular traffic and cyclists affected by the closure is via: -
1. Knowsley Road – Wigan Road – Crosshall Brow – School Lane
2. Scarth Hill – St Helens Road – Knowsley Road – Wigan Road – Crosshall Brow – School Lane
The Police, Fire and Ambulance Services have been informed.
The temporary prohibition is necessary to enable the safe holding of The West Lancashire Spring Triathlon Event 2019
The prohibition will be operative from 0700 hours until 1230 hours on Sunday 14th April 2019.
Authority given for this Order to be made:
Michael White, Network Regulation Manager, Lancashire Highway Services, 0300 123 6701 [Ref: HRiT/16211/KF]

Lancashire County Council

Some schools are excluded as commitment is on an individual basis.

Apply online at: www.lancashire.gov.uk/vacancies

WEST LANCASHIRE BOROUGH COUNCIL
SCHEME OF MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 that West Lancashire Borough Council has made a scheme of allowances payable to members of the Council, which comes into effect on 1 April 2019.

In making the Scheme, the Council has had regard to the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel as required by Regulation 3 of the abovementioned Regulations.

The Scheme commencing on 1 April 2019 does not provide for an increase in the Basic Allowance payable to Members of the Council and this has be fixed at £4,842 for a 4 year period until 31 March 2020. All other rates of Allowances will remain the same as those paid during 2018/19.

The Scheme is available for inspection by members of the public during normal office hours (between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday, excluding Bank Holidays) at the Council's offices at 52 Derby Street Ormskirk. Copies may be purchased on payment of 50 pence per sheet. The Scheme can also be accessed via the Council's website – www.westlancs.gov.uk.

Dated: 20 March 2019

Terry Broderick
Borough Solicitor
52 Derby Street, Ormskirk
West Lancashire, L39 2DF
01695 577177
www.westlancs.gov.uk

West Lancashire Borough Council

West Lancashire Borough Council
Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990 Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 - Article 15

APPLICATION(S) FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

2019/0121/FUL Proposed conversion of the former / vacant parish centre into 5 apartments, with associated external alterations and demolition of outbuildings at St Elizabeth's Parish Centre, 10 Hall Road, Scarisbrick.
The application affects a Conservation Area.
The application affects a Listed Building.
2019/0155/COU Change of use from B8 (storage) to B2 (vehicle repair garage) retrospective at Land To The Rear Of 44 To 50 Church Road, Banks.
2019/0221/FUL Proposed new external wooden store at Sports Pavilion Memorial Playing Field, Halsall Road, Halsall.
The application affects a Conservation Area.
2019/0238/FUL Bedroom extension at first floor level. Convert master bedroom en-suite to an additional bedroom. Add dark grey stone cladding to part ground floor front elevation. Add glass balustrade to rear. Add patio doors to rear of garage at 33 Granville Park West, Aughton.
The application affects a Conservation Area.
2019/0263/FUL Gates to side of house at 24 Alder Lane, Parbold.
The application affects a Conservation Area.
The applications are available for viewing on the Council's website www.westlancs.gov.uk/planning. Alternatively, the application can be viewed during normal office hours at 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk and at 1st Floor, The Concourse, Skelmersdale. If you wish to comment on the proposal you can do so via the Council's web site, by e-mail to plan.apps@westlancs.gov.uk or in writing to Development and Regeneration Services, 52 Derby Street, Ormskirk, but these must be received within 24 days of the date of this notice quoting the application number.
Applications for Minor Commercial and Householder Development
In the event that an appeal is made against a decision of the Council to refuse to grant planning permission for the proposed development, and that appeal then proceeds by way of the expedited procedure under the written representations procedure, any representations made to the Council about an application will be passed to the Secretary of State and there will be no opportunity to make further representations.
How information about you will be used
The personal data you provide will be used as part of the Council's statutory planning duties in processing planning and related applications. Some of the personal information, including your name and address, you provide will be published. For further information about this notice or how we use your personal data please see: http://www.westlancs.gov.uk/planning/planning-privacy-notices/level-2-development-management-cil-privacy-notice.aspx and http://www.westlancs.gov.uk/about-the-council/legal-statements-and-foi/privacy-and-data-protection-gdpr.aspx. Hard copies are available on request.

John R Harrison DipEnvP., MRTPI Dated: 27th March 2019
Director of Development and Regeneration PDNOT1037

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£1,500 = 28167 £100 = 27242
Winners of £20 are as follows:

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13127	17369
146670	317497
311033	55125
20623	14434
14166	10521
202000	291088
10453	257072
220676	19494
26032	71556

BIRTHDAYS

RAY GALVIN
80th Birthday
24.03.2019

Happy 80th Birthday

Love Always

Wife Marie, Daughters Marie & Paula, Son's in Law Peter & David, Grandchildren, Ashley, Kyle, Tracey, Declan, Lauren, Bethany, Shaun & Great Grandchildren, Nathan & Lily xxx

CONGRATULATIONS

CONGRATULATIONS
EMMA WILSON
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CHRIS LOWE

On successfully completing The Association of Chartered Certified Accountant (ACCA) qualification.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The family of the late Patricia (Pat) Hopkins wish to express their sincere thanks to all relatives and friends for the kindness and sympathy shown to them during their recent bereavement. Also for the cards and donations to the Southport Stroke Club.

Special thanks to all doctors and nursing staff on Ward 15A at Southport Hospital.

Thanks to Bruce Soden for a comforting service and special thanks to Alex and Mike at Moisters Funeral Directors for funeral arrangements.

TYNAN 'MOLLY'

Paul, Colette and Peter wish to express their sincere thanks to all relatives, friends and neighbours for the very kind thoughts of sympathy, cards, their attendance at the Funeral Mass and donations received for Thomas Henshaw Court (Mini Bus Appeal), during their recent sad loss of a loving mother. Special thanks to all staff at Thomas Henshaw Court for their loving care and attention given to Molly during her time there. Grateful thanks to Fr. Atli for his thoughtful and kind ministrations. Thanks also to Michael and Michelle of M. Rushton Funeral Directors for their care, support and dignified funeral arrangements.

ROTHWELL JOSIE

John and family would like to express their heartfelt and sincere thanks to relatives and friends for the love, support and overwhelming amount of cards, messages and donations received in Josie's name. Special thanks also to Ward 10b at Southport Hospital for the outstanding care given to Josie, Rev Michael Tindsley for the beautifully conducted service and Melanie Hardman and her team for their kind and sensitive service.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

REYNOLDS RON

Sarah and Rob would like to express heartfelt thanks to our friends for all their kindness and support through Ron's long illness and his recent passing.

Thanks to all who attended the funeral and for very generous donations to Freshfield Animal Rescue.

We were especially touched by tributes to 'An Unforgettable Teacher' from Ron's former pupils.

We are grateful to all at Benridge Care Home for their outstanding dementia and end of life care for Ron.

A big thank you also to Howard's and Pete Goulding for the funeral arrangements.

MOORCROFT THOMAS HENRY (TOM)

Denise and family would like to thank all neighbours and friends for the many kind messages of sympathy received on their recent sad loss. Thanks also to those who attended the Commital and the Service of Thanksgiving for Tom's life, and for the generous donations to Cancer Research. Special thanks to Rev. Sue Guenault and frineds at Emmanuel Methodist U.R.C. Church for their unfailing love and support. Also to Hunters of Ormskirk for their dignified arrangements

FARRIMOND DORIS

Alan and family would like to thank all family, friends and neighbours for their kind expressions of sympathy, cards, flowers and donations received during their recent sad loss of Doris. Special thanks to Rvd Pauline Bicknall for her kind ministrations and to Melanie at H Hardman & Co., for her dignified funeral arrangements.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CLAYTON LAURENCE

Of Tarleton

Julie and the family of the late Laurie Clayton would like to acknowledge the many expressions of sympathy and gestures of kindness shown to us following our recent sad loss. To Dr Mittal and the very caring and professional District Nurses, the Queenscourt at home team, the carers, Peter Goulding the celebrant whose words will never be forgotten, the Rufford Arms for their splendid catering and finally to Newland & Wilkinson for their dignified handling of arrangements we say a heartfelt thankyou. For the many cards, flowers, messages of support and charity donations to Help for Heroes, in Laurie's memory, we are extremely grateful.

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RIMMER GERALD

Gerald's family would like to express their sincere thanks to all family, friends, carers, Brenda Wright - next door neighbour and Dr. Pilkington for all their kindness, support and the many cards and messages of condolence at this sad time. Special thanks to Rev. Keith Jarvis for his support and warm ministrations and Allan Johnson and Nicholas Hicks for their touching tributes. Thanks also to Banks Brass Band for playing before, during and after the service and to Robert Putman for organ music during the service. Wonderful refreshments enjoyed by all - thanks to Brenda Tatler and team. Thank you to everyone for the kind donations received towards Banks Brass Band, Queens Court Hospice and the Southport Offshore Lifeboat fund and thanks also to Dave and Claire at Newland and Wilkinson for their caring and professional service.

IN MEMORIAM

BIRCHALL JOHN (JACK)

31st March 2015

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Is a sweet mystery.

With love Sheila and family.

WINROW JOHN

31st March 2010

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Your memory a treasure
You are loved beyond words
And missed beyond measure

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Loving Wife
Jean and all your family

DEATHS

LARKIN ANGELA

(Nee Connecly)

22nd March 2019
Peacefully in hospital
aged 74 years

Loving Wife of Tony, devoted Mum of Tony, Michael, Marie and Kevin.
Dear Mother in law of Joanne and Lisa.
Cherished Nan and Great Nan of all her Grandchildren.
Will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. Funeral details and further enquiries to Margaret Whitelam Skelmersdale Funeral Service 29/31 Sandy Lane Tel: 01695 559868

To place a family **announcement** please call **01704 392392** or visit **champnews.com**

DEATHS

LINAKER JOHN

Born 06.06.1930
Gone into the light
12.03.2019

Treasured memories of a much loved Husband for just a short 60 years to Heather, great friend and Dad of Aly. Grateful to have had John with us for so long, he was a rock, heavy at times but still a rock. Going to be missed by many.

'Cremation without ceremony'
John was passionate about not suffering and having the choice to a dignified death, so anybody who would like to pay their respects to John can donate to 'Dignity in Dying' donations gratefully accepted by the family or Go Fund Me page - 'In memory of John Linaker'

Heather and Aly would like to thank all staff at Southport Hospital, especially Ward 7B for their loving care, support and dignity shown to John in the last six weeks of his life after a stroke.

Ashes interred in family grave at St. Cuthbert's Church, Churchtown.

To celebrate John's life, raise a glass and have a boogie to the tunes he liked at Settle Inn, Botanic Gardens, June 15th - 8pm-midnight.
All friends of the family welcome to join us

DEATHS

REID DOROTHY "DOT"

18th March 2019
Aged 72 Years

Peacefully at home surrounded by her family. Beloved Mother of Rachel and Ben, devoted Grandma to Cara, Max and Ellie. Cherished Sister, Auntie, Mother in law and friend. Celebration of life will take place at Southport Crematorium on Thursday 28th March at 10:40am. At Dot's request please wear glitter and sparkle. Dot will be greatly missed by all who knew her, Goodnight, God bless. Family flowers only please, but if desired donations are being gratefully received for Queenscourt Hospice.

Enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone: 01704 500086.

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SHEARER LES

After a long illness, peacefully in hospital on 16th March 2019, aged 91 years.

Much loved Husband of Eileen. Dear Dad of Douglas, Diane, Noel and Denise. Dear Grandad to all his Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren. Les will be sadly missed by all his family and friends and all who knew him. Funeral Service and Committal will take place at Southport Crematorium on Wednesday 3rd April 2019 at 3.20pm. Family flowers only by request please but the family are gratefully receiving donations for Cancer Research UK. Further enquires please to Moisters Funeral Directors. 8 Marshside Road, Churchtown, Southport. PR9 8PF Tel: 01704 227430.

DEATHS

PARRY BOB

16th March 2019
Peacefully, at home, aged 52 years.

Beloved Husband of Maxine. Loving Dad of Lewis, Olivia and Liam. Devoted Grandad of Alba. Bob will be sadly missed by all his family and friends. Funeral Service and Committal will take place at West Lancashire Crematorium, Pippin Street, Ormskirk, L40 7SP on Monday 1st April 2019 at 4pm. Family flowers only by request please but the family are gratefully receiving donations for Queenscourt Hospice.
Further enquiries to Porters Funeralcare, 111a Bispham Road, Southport, PR9 7BJ, Telephone Number 01704 212714.

ATKINSON, DEREK JAMES

March 12th 2019
Peacefully in hospital
Aged 80 years.

Devoted Husband, Dad, Grandad, Brother and a true Gentleman to all. Derek is irreplaceable and will be greatly missed. God bless always and rest in peace. Requiem Mass at St George's RC Church, Maghull on Thursday March 28th 2019 at 12:00 noon followed by cremation at Southport Crematorium. Family flowers only please but donations, if desired for St Joseph's Hospice, Thornton c/o Graham J Clegg Funeral Service, 7 Dover Road, Maghull, Merseyside L31 5JB Tel: 0151 520 3330.

STAMPER STAN

22nd March 2019
Aged 78 years

Beloved Husband to Doreen, dear Dad to Paul, Sue and Carol, Grandad to Dayna, Mark, Ricky, Ryan and Lewis, Great Grandad to Chelsea.
Funeral service at West Lancs Crematorium on Monday 1st April at 12.15pm.

DEATHS

RAWSTHORNE SADIE

(Formerly of Bickerstaffe)
Passed away peacefully on March 15th 2019 at Victoria Nursing Home Rainford
Aged 93 years

Dearly loved Mum of Ralph, Daughter-in-Law Steph, Loving Nan to Stuart and Wife Becky, Ted and Wife Louise and a dear Great Gran to Onia and Ralph.
Funeral to take place at Bickerstaffe Parish Church at 2.00pm on Thursday 4th April 2019, followed by service at St Helens Crematorium at 3.00pm.Family flowers only and donations if desired in memory of Sadie to Victoria House Care Home.All enquiries to Gornalls Funeral Directors, Rainford. 01744 886544

JONES EVELYN

18th March 2019
Peacefully in hospital
Aged 92 years

Dearest Cousin of Margaret Simpson, Alan and Stanley Webster. Auntie to Joyce, George and Kathleen Simpson. Funeral Service at Thornton Crematorium on Wednesday 3rd April at 10.40am. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Tithebarn Residents Fund c/o H. Leslie Humphreys, 69 Liverpool Road, Crosby Liverpool L23 5SE. Tel: 0151 9244805.

HARVEY LEONARD (LEN)

20th March 2019
Aged 88 years

Loving Partner of Sheila and much loved Dad of Janet. Len will be greatly missed by all his family and friends. Service at Southport Crematorium on Friday 29th March at 2:00pm. Enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone: 01704 500086.

Announcements

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DEATHS

MOORE RAY

18th March 2019

Aged 75 years

Loving Husband to Linda. Amazing Dad of Nicola, Michelle and proud Grandad to Ben, Sam and Hugo. Ray will be greatly missed by all his family and friends. Service at West Lancashire Crematorium, Pippin Street, Burscough, L40 7SP on Tuesday 2nd April at 12:15pm. Donations are being collected in lieu of flowers for The Stroke Unit (Southport District General Hospital). Enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport, PR9 9DR. Telephone: 01704 500086.

To place a family **announcement** please call 01704 392392

HUNTER KEN

Peacefully in Hospital after a long illness

Bravely Bourne

Aged 81 years

A much loved Husband to Ronnie. Dad to Terry, Ian, Kevin and Lindsay. Grandad to Liam, Jack, Madison, Samantha, Carly, Faye and Craig.Great Grandad to Olivia and Ella. Father-in-Law to Brian, Debbie and Caroline. Funeral service at St John the Baptist Church, Burscough on 29th March 2019 at 11.am.Family flowers only but donations to Queenscourt Hospice if desired. All enquiries to MLS Independent Funeral Directors, 20 Moss Delph Lane, Aughton, Ormskirk, L39 5DZ. Tel 01695 424888.

DEATHS

HORROCKS (NEE KEITH) MARY

Passed away peacefully at home on 20th March 2019 aged 73 years of Liverpool

Dearly Loved Partner of Rod, Much Loved and Adored Sister, Aunty, Great Aunty, and Sister in law, Loved and Missed by all her Family and Friends. Funeral Service at St. Elizabeths Church, Scarisbrick on Monday 1st April 2019 at 11.00am. Family flowers only please by request, but donations are being gratefully received in Memory of Mary for Parkinsons UK. Donations and further enquires please to Lisa Hunter, MLS Independent Funeral Directors 20, Moss Delph Lane, Aughton. Tel: 01695 424888.

HUYTON DONALD

14th March 2019

Suddenly but peacefully on holiday in Tenerife aged 76 years of Halsall

The dearly loved Husband of Patricia, loving Dad of Karen and Shaun, dear Father in law of Steve and Lynn and devoted Grandad of Niall, Louis, Finley, Olivia and Ella. Funeral service and interment at St Michael's Church, Aughton on Monday 1st April 2019 at 1:00pm. Family flowers only please, donations if desired for MacMillan Cancer Support. No Black to be worn by family request. All enquiries to Melanie Hardman at H Hardman & Co., Independent Family Funeral Directors of Skelmersdale, Ormskirk & Scarisbrick. Tel: 01695 722122/720012

DEATHS

WILSON LYNDA

15th March 2019 aged 68 years

Died peacefully in Aintree Hospital surrounded by her family

Much loved Mother of Steven, Julie, Lyndsey, Kirsty and Roy. Mother in law to Jenny, Karl, Mike, Neil and Helen. Devoted Nan to Carly, Lauren, Mathew, Ben, Daniel, Leyton, Paige, Jessica and Scarlett. Sister to Norman and Karen. She will be sadly missed by all her family. Funeral service at Southport Crematorium on Monday 1st April at 12pm. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired for Stroke Association. All enquiries to Hunters of Ormskirk 124b Burscough St, Ormskirk L39 2EY Tel:01695 572997

BRISCOE LESLIE

21st March 2019

Peacefully at Beacon View Care Home, Skelmersdale aged 93 years

The dearly loved Husband of the late Sally, loving Dad of John (deceased) and Eileen. Dear Father in law of Sandra and Richard and devoted Grandad to all his Grand and Great Grandchildren. Funeral service at St Paul's Church, Skelmersdale on Wednesday 3rd April 2019 at 1.30pm followed by cremation at West Lancashire Crematorium, Burscough. All enquiries to Melanie Hardman at H. Hardman & Co Independent Family Funeral Directors of Skelmersdale, Ormskirk and Scarisbrick. Tel: 01695 722122 / 720012

DEATHS

SHEPHERD RON

on 15th March 2019 peacefully in Hospital Aged 90 years

Beloved Husband of the late Margaret, loving Dad of John, Lynda, Carol and Marion, dear Father-In-Law of Maureen, Steve and Darren, much loved Granddad of Paul, Laura and Kyla, and a loving Great Granddad and Great Great Granddad.Funeral service will take place at Southport Cramatorium on Friday 29th March at 11.20am.Family flowers only by request donations if desired for The Stroke Unit Ward 15b.Further enquiries please to M. Rushton Funeral Directors, 100 Marshside Road, Southport, PR9 9TG. Tel:01704 214118

McCLURE BETH

22nd March 2019 Aged 87 years

Slipped away peacefully at Birkdale Park Nursing Home. Beth will be greatly missed by all her family and friends. Service at Southport Crematorium on Tuesday 2nd April at 3.20pm. Family flowers only please, but if desired donations are being collected for St. Cuthberts Church. Enquiries to Howard's Funeral Directors, 1-5 Roe Lane, Southport PR9 9DR. Telephone 01704 500086.

To place a family **announcement** please call 01704 392392 or visit champnews.com

DEATHS

IRVING WILLIAM STUART

24th March 2019

Peacefully in hospital aged 85 years of Ormskirk formerly of Old Swan

The dearly loved Husband of the late Joan, loving Dad of Ian, Neil, Andrew and Stuart and devoted Grandad of Holly, Madeleine and Nethaniel. Funeral service and interment at Ormskirk Parish Church on Thursday 4th April 2019 at 12.30pm. Family flowers only please, donations if desired for Ormskirk Parish Church. All enquiries to Melanie Hardman at H Hardman & Co, Independent Family Funeral Directors of Skelmersdale, Ormskirk & Scarisbrick Tel:01695 722122 / 720012

FELL JEAN EMILY

21st March 2019

Passed away peacefully in hospital aged 83 years of Aughton

Dearly loved Wife of the late Peter Fell, much loved Mum of Lesley and Julie, Loving Grandma of Chloe, Lindsey and Robbie and Great Grandma of Jacob and TJ. Funeral Service at West Lancs Crematorium on Friday 29th March 2019 at 1.45 pm, Family flowers only please by request, but donations are being gratefully received for The Derby Day Centre.

Donations and further enquires please to Sally Hunter MLS Independent Funeral Directors, 20, Moss Delph Lane, Aughton Tel: 01695 424888

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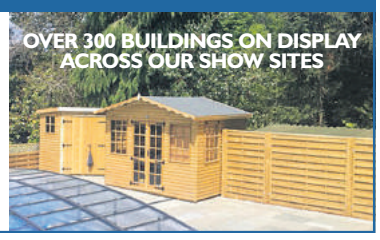

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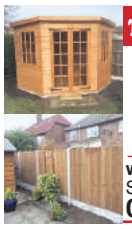

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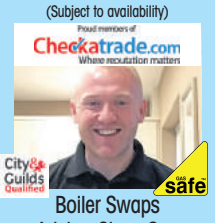

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Nineties nostalgia is all the rage now...

I'M NOT sure if Gareth Cheeseman – the egocentric salesman character created by Steve Coogan years ago – reads *The Champion*, but he'll be delighted by this week's revelation if he does. The Ford Probe is a classic car.

Yes, the Ford Probe. Remember it?

It was the Nineties' belated follow-up to the Capri, but for all sorts of reasons it never really caught on in the same way that the automotive star of *The Professionals* did.

After just three years and a little over 15,000 sales it was quietly dropped in the UK, making way for the Mondeo-based Cougar that arrived just a few months later.

That was way back in 1997, but 22 years on the Probe seems to get an excitable flurry of likes and retweets every time it pops up online.

It many ways it was entirely the wrong car to follow up the Capri – it was front-wheel-drive, so any cheeky opportunities of getting the tail out on wet roundabouts were dashed from the off, and its TV appearances with the aforementioned Cheeseman on the excellent *Coogan's Run* killed its street cred in an instant.

It also arrived just as two-door coupés were all the rage, so it had a lot of competition; not just from obvious rivals like Vauxhall's Calibra, but real eye-grabbers like the Alfa GTV and Fiat Coupé too.

But look at one now, when there are fewer than 500 left on the UK's roads – making it a far rarer beast than the Capri – and with Nineties nostalgia all the rage, and there's something really compelling about it.

For starters, if you get the 24-valve version you have a silky, 2.5-litre V6 beneath the bonnet, delivering mid-range torque in a way that the turbocharged three-cylinder engines of today just can't match. For me, the thing I love about the Probe is the way it looks, with those full-width rear lights and concept car profile.

And pop-up headlights, of course. Any car with pop-up headlights is, I've always thought, automatically cool simply on account of having them. Why can't we bring them back?

The Probe might have had a silly name, an unfortunate on-screen fan and the misfortune of following a motoring cult hero, but I reckon its time has finally come.

I'm just glad that Instagram – rather than Gareth Cheeseman - seems to agree.

New go-faster version of Skoda Octavia on sale

SKODA has launched a sporty new version of its Octavia.

The new SportLine model, which sits just below the go-faster vRS in the company's range, has been kitted out with more aggressive-looking body trim, including a black front spoiler and matching grille, door mirrors and rear diffuser insert, and inside it's been treated to a satnav system and an integrated Wi-Fi internet connection.

It's available as both a hatchback and estate and with the choice of either a 1.5-litre petrol or two-litre turbodiesel, both of which put out 150bhp. It's available to order now, with prices starting at £23,870.

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*** CORSA 1.4 SE 90 5 DR 17 REG**, 3,000 miles in Persian blue metallic, IntelliLink, front & rear park assist, alloys, DAB radio, heated front seats & steering wheel, cruise, Bluetooth, heated windscreen, aircon – FSH..... **£9,795**

*** CORSA 1.4 SE 90 5 DR 17 REG** 4,000 miles in lava red, IntelliLink, front & rear park assist, alloys, DAB radio, heated front seats & steering wheel, cruise, Bluetooth, heated windscreen - FSH..... **£9,695**

*** CORSA 1.4 SE 90 5 DR 66 REG** 12,000 miles in royal blue, IntelliLink, front & rear park assist, alloys, DAB radio, heated front seats & steering wheel, cruise, Bluetooth, heated windscreen, aircon – FSH & £30 road tax..... **£8,695**

*** CORSA 1.4 SE 90 5 DR 16 REG** 5,000 miles in asteroid grey metallic, IntelliLink, front & rear park assist, alloy, DAB radio, heated front seats & steering wheel, cruise, Bluetooth, heated windscreen, aircon – FSH & £30 road tax..... **£8,695**

*** CORSA 1.4 SE 90 5 DR 16 REG** 12,000 miles in sovereign silver metallic, IntelliLink, front & rear park assist, alloy, DAB radio, heated front seats & steering wheel, cruise, Bluetooth, heated windscreen, aircon – FSH & £30 road tax..... **£8,550**

*** CORSA 1.4 SE 90 5 DR 15 REG** just 3,000 miles in peppermint metallic, front & rear park assist, alloys, DAB radio, heated front seats & steering wheel, cruise, Bluetooth, heated windscreen, aircon - FSH & £30 road tax..... **£7,995**

CORSA 1.4 SE 90 5 DR 15 REG 18,000 miles in pepperdust metallic, front & rear park assist, alloys, DAB radio, heated front seats & steering wheel, cruise, Bluetooth, heated windscreen, aircon - FSH & 12 months MOT & £30 road tax..... **£7,495**

ZAFIRA TOURER

*** ZAFIRA 1.4 TURBO SRi 5 DR 65 REG** 31,000 miles in dark sea blue metallic, alloys, aircon, cruise, DAB radio, Bluetooth, front & rear park assist - FSH..... **£9,395**

MOKKA X

*** MOKKA X 1.4 TURBO DESIGN NAV AUTO 5 DR** 67 REG 4,000 miles in amber orange metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, IntelliLink, alloys, cruise, DAB radio, front & rear park assist..... **£15,150**

*** MOKKA X 1.4 ACTIVE AUTO 5 DR 67 REG** 1,000 miles in velvet red metallic, IntelliLink, Bluetooth, alloys, cruise, DAB radio, front & rear park assist..... **£14,995**

*** MOKKA X 1.4 TURBO ACTIVE 5 DR 67 REG** 3,000 miles in summit white, IntelliLink, Bluetooth, alloys, cruise, DAB radio, front & rear park assist, climate **£13,195**

MOKKA

*** MOKKA 1.4 TURBO SE AUTO 5 DR** 16 REG 8,000 miles in burnt orange metallic, Bluetooth, full leather, heated front seats, front & rear park assist, cruise, aircon, alloys – FSH..... **£11,150**

*** MOKKA 1.4 TURBO SE AUTO 5 DR 65 REG** 16,000 miles in boracay blue metallic, Bluetooth, full leather, heated front seats, front & rear park assist, cruise, aircon, alloys - FSH..... **£10,695**

*** MOKKA 1.6 SE 5 DR 65 REG** 20,000 miles in glacier white, Bluetooth, full leather, heated front seats & steering wheel, front & rear park assist, cruise, aircon, alloys - FSH..... **£9,650**

MOKKA 1.6 SE 5 DR 15 REG 13,000 miles in Boracay blue metallic, Bluetooth, full leather, heated front seats, front & rear park assist, cruise, aircon, alloys – FSH **£9,395**

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OTHER MAKES

*** HYUNDAI TUCSON 1.6 GDi S CONNECT 5 DR 68 REG** 4,000 miles in inca beach metallic, alloys, Bluetooth, rear park assist, climate, DAB radio – balance of 5 yr Hyundai warranty..... **£16,595**

*** NISSAN X-TRAIL 1.6 DCi ACENTA with SMART VISION PACK 5 DR 67 REG (2018)** 14,000 miles in sapphire blue metallic, sunroof, alloys, Bluetooth, cruise, front & rear park assist, DAB radio, aircon - balance of 3 yr Nissan warranty & spare wheel **£15,595**

*** HONDA CR-V 1.6 SE 5 DR 16 REG** 15,000 miles in dark grey metallic, Bluetooth, climate, cruise, DAB radio, alloys, front and rear park assist, FSH, £30 road tax **£14,995**

*** HYUNDAI TUCSON 1.7 SE NAV CRDi 5 DR 16 REG** 28,000 miles in moon rock metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, climate, cruise, DAB radio, alloys, heated front seats, reverse camera – FSH & balance of 5 yr Hyundai warranty **£13,695**

*** HYUNDAI TUCSON 1.6 SE GDi (PETROL) 5 DR 16 REG** 9,000 miles in denim blue metallic, Bluetooth, climate, cruise, alloys, heated front seats – FSH & balance of 5 yr Hyundai warranty..... **£13,450**

*** VW TIGUAN 2.0 MATCH TDi DSG AUTO BLUEMOTION 4MOTION 15 REG** 30,000 miles in platinum metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, front & rear park assist, climate, alloys - FSH & 12 months MOT..... **£13,295**

*** AUDI A1 1.4 S LINE TFSi 3 DR 16 REG** 18,000 miles & spotless in scuba blue metallic, alloys, Bluetooth, DAB radio, rear park assist, cruise, aircon – FSH with Audi & £30 road tax..... **£13,295**

*** FORD FIESTA 1.0 TURBO ECOBOOST TITANIUM 100 5 DR 67 REG (NEW SHAPE)** 6,000 miles in magnetic grey metallic, Bluetooth, alloys, aircon, cruise, DAB radio, SAT NAV, heated windscreen, privacy glass - balance of 3 yr Ford warranty.. **£12,750**

*** FORD FIESTA 1.1 ZETEC NAV 85 5 DR 67 REG** (NEW SHAPE) 6,000 miles in magnetic grey metallic, SAT NAV, alloys, aircon, DAB radio, bluetooth & heated rear windscreen - balance of 3 yr Ford warranty **£11,395**

HONDA CIVIC 1.6 SR NAVI I-DTEC DIESEL 5 DR 65 REG 23,000 miles in red metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, leather, alloys, rear parking camera, rear front & rear park assist, heated front seats, climate, cruise, DAB radio - FSH & zero road tax.. **£10,995**

*** DACIA DUSTER 1.5 NAV+ DCi 110 5 DR 67 REG** 17,000 miles in slate grey metallic, SAT NAV, cruise, DAB radio, Bluetooth, aircon, rear parking sensors & camera, alloys - balance of 3 yr Dacia warranty..... **£10,795**

BMW 1 SERIES 125 2.0 I M SPORT SPORTS HATCH 3 DR 62 REG 24,000 miles in Estoril blue metallic with red leather seats, alloys, Bluetooth - FSH..... **£10,595**

*** SKODA YETI 1.6 TDi OUTDOOR SE GREENLINE II 5 DR 15 REG** 26,000 miles in brilliant silver metallic, Bluetooth , rear park assist, alloys, cruise, aircon - FSH, 12 months MOT & £30 road tax..... **£10,195**

*** RENAULT CLIO 0.9 DYNAMIQUE NAV TCE 90 5 DR 18 REG** 8,000 miles in diamond black metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, DAB radio, alloys, aircon, cruise - balance of 3 yr Renault warranty..... **£10,195**

*** PEUGEOT 208 1.2 ALLURE PREMIUM 82 5 DR 18 REG** 10,000 miles in nimbus grey metallic, Bluetooth, alloys, rear parking camera, panoramic roof, DAB radio, cruise, aircon – balance of 3 yr Peugeot warranty **£10,195**

*** PEUGEOT 208 1.2 ALLURE 81 5 DR 18 REG** 9,000 miles in aluminium silver metallic, Bluetooth, alloys, rear park assist, DAB radio, cruise, aircon - balance of 3 yr Peugeot warranty..... **£9,895**

*** RENAULT CLIO 1.2 DYNAMIQUE NAV 75 5 DR 18 REG** 9,000 miles in titanium metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, DAB radio, alloys, aircon, cruise - balance of 3 yr Renault warranty..... **£9,695**

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HONDA CIVIC 1.4 S 5 DR 16 REG 27,000 miles in bright blue metallic, Bluetooth, alloys, climate, DAB radio – FSH & 12 months MOT..... **£9,395**

*** HYUNDAI i10 1.2 SE 5 DR 68 REG** 9,000 miles in black, Bluetooth, cruise, DAB radio, aircon – balance of 5 yr Hyundai warranty **£8,995**

*** HYUNDAI I20 1.2 S AIR 5 DR 18 REG** from 10,000 miles, in aqua sparkling metallic or white, aircon, DAB radio – balance of 5 yr Hyundai warranty..... **£8,750**

*** NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 N-TEC+ DCi 5 DR 15 REG** 93,000 miles in ink blue metallic, SAT NAV, Bluetooth, panoramic roof, privacy glass, front & rear park assist & parking camera, alloys, cruise, aircon – spotless with FSH at Nissan & £20 road tax .. **£8,650**

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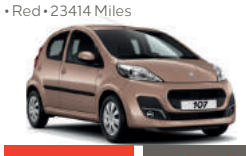

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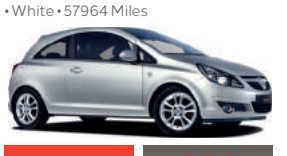

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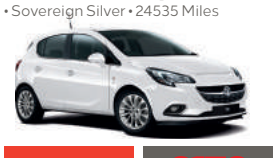

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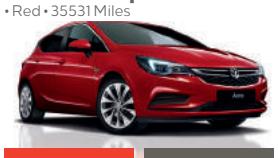

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Linnets left frustrated by inspired home goalkeeper

Whitchurch Alport 1
Burscough 0

BURSCOUGH somehow came away empty handed thanks to an inspired performance from the Whitchurch Alport goalkeeper.

Burscough will have got back on their coach at Yockings Park in north Shropshire wondering how they didn't pick up at least a point in a close game.

Much of the reason must lie with Whitchurch stopper Dave Parton who put in an inspired performance, denying Chad Whyte three times in the first-half leaving the big striker holding his head in despair.

It was no surprise that Burscough manager Terry Green fielded the same starting eleven that had comprehensively seen off West Didsbury & Chorlton 3-0 the previous Saturday. The hosts needed to win to finally see off the sceptre of relegation that dangerously hung in the distance.

After the match both goalkeepers were to earn the plaudits, Parton of Whitchurch and Ben Fletcher of Burscough.

Fletcher was busy after just few seconds saving from Dan Skelton and Sean Griffiths, however down the other Whyte was twice kept out by Parton.

Burscough started to inflict pressure on the home goal and had a series of corners, but on a counterattack Fletcher did well to keep Dylan Bath out. With both teams going for glory, it wasn't a boring game.

On the half-hour mark Burscough had a right to feel they were just plain unlucky. Whyte was put one on one with Parton and he looked sure to score, somehow Parton thwarted him again.

In the 37th minute Luke Gibson headed over the home crossbar from a Terry Cummings cross from the right.

With 40 minutes on the clock Whitchurch got what was to prove a crucial breakthrough. The ball was driven into the Burscough penalty area and Alex Hughes lost his marker, he sent a flicked header low into the bottom corner to make it 1-0. It was his third goal in four games.

Burscough had had more of the goal scoring opportunities but were still a goal down at the interval.

Whyte was again frustrated by Parton in the second half then around the hour mark Whitchurch got Fletcher busy again making a good save from Griffiths.

The Linnets defence came to his rescue with a goal-line clearance from Griffiths after a Hughes corner.

Griffiths was proving dangerous and he curled a shot wide before Fletcher saved from Hughes.

Twelve minutes from the end Parton was back in action to finger tip a Jordan Lorde free-kick wide of the target, while Whyte put a shot over the crossbar late-on.

Whitchurch hung on, but Burscough certainly didn't play badly, just one of those days when the hosts finishing in front of goal was better than Burscough's, but only marginally.

Henoc Mukendi climbs highest to head home the opening goal for Skem. Pictures by John Driscoll

Skem concede late goal to come away empty handed

Report by **Neil Leatherbarrow**

Skelmersdale United 1
Droylsden 2

SKELMERSDALE took the lead but came away empty handed after conceding a late goal against Droylsden.

Skem took a twentieth minute lead and matched their opponents from Tameside for periods of the game but were unfortunate to not even come away with a point.

Skelmersdale manager Paul McNally made a number of changes to his team and was pleased by their impact.

The Droylsden team interestingly were captained by former Skelmersdale, Marine and Southport midfielder Mike Brewster who is well known to Skem regulars.

Skelmersdale made their first serious attack on 19 minutes and won a corner on the right, which Henoc Mukendi headed home to make it 1-0.

Skelmersdale had more of the play for a while after the goal without generating too much in the way of chances, Mukendi turning to put a shot from six yards into the side netting with the best move. In the ten minutes before half-time Droylsden started to cause Skem some problems, one of which was cut out by some swift action off his line by keeper Kirkman.

Liam Caddick scores Droylsden's equaliser

Six minutes before the break Droylsden levelled. Some interplay between Shaquille Antoine-Clarke and Domaine Rouse put Skem on the back foot and when the latter via a deflection put Caddick into space around the penalty spot, he clinically finished low into the net.

Droylsden kept up the pressure but Skem looked well organised at the back and were generally coping well, a header was saved by Kirkman then substitute Aaron Burgess had one cleared off the line.

80 minutes had elapsed when Droylsden went 2-1 up. It was a good goal but Skem could be criticised for allowing too much room. Rouse approached down the left wing and he had the time to switch the ball from left to right foot before curling a shot over Kirkman and into the top corner of the net from 25 yards.

Droylsden went for the kill and twice Kirkman kept Skelmersdale in the game, the second a really high quality block at Ford's feet, when the winger was clean in on goal.

Skelmersdale penned Droylsden in their penalty area in the last moments of added time then seconds before the final whistle substitute Luis Pavoa turned to put a right-foot shot inches past the post.

After the game Paul McNally said: "It was one of our more pleasing performances and I thought everyone was at least a seven or an eight out of ten. It was just unfortunate that they have a little bit more quality than us, it's just the way it is. It was tough to take but everyone around the ground can see that they are starting to perform that bit better."

McNally looks to do one better against Kidsgrove

BURSCOUGH are without a game this weekend so it leaves Skelmersdale United as the only side in West Lancashire with a fixture to look forward to on Saturday.

Skelmersdale are away to Kidsgrove Athletic with a kick off time of 3pm. It is a game that Skem manager Paul McNally will be looking to for some points, especially after the 2-2 draw that the two sides fought out at Prescot back in December, which in the end saw both teams sending play swaying from end to end in a dramatic finish.

Based on his post match comments on Saturday, McNally clearly thinks his young team are due to put in another victory, so he will go down the M6 with serious hopes.

Skelmersdale have no midweek game next week and are at home again on Saturday, April 6 against Market Drayton Town and then they travel to Colne on Tuesday, April 9.

Burscough after being left without a game for a fortnight by the North-West Counties League so they will be frustrated.

They played at Whitchurch Alport last Saturday then don't play again until Sunday, April 7 when they play Northwich Victoria away, kick off 3pm.

Linnets supporters should note the Sunday date is correct because Northwich ground share with Witton Albion who have preference for the use of Wincham Park on Saturday, so Burscough will have to play a Sunday match.

The next game at Victoria Park is on Tuesday, April 9 when Burscough entertain City of Liverpool in what promises to be a tremendous night.

City of Liverpool are in a promotion shoot-out situation with Bootle and could well fetch a couple of hundred supporters with them to Burscough, so it could be a memorable night for what might be the penultimate match at the ground.

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ENROL NOW

SPRING COURSES

- SEE INSIDE -

Enrolment: Monday 1 – Wednesday 3 April / 10am-3pm
and Wednesday 3 April / 5pm-7pm

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West Lancashire College

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Train for a creative career at The Imagery Hair & Beauty Academy

West Lancashire College are proud to announce The Imagery Hair & Beauty Academy, a state of the art training facility for those wishing to train in Hairdressing, Barbering, Beauty, Spa, Holistic Therapies or Media Make-up.

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Careers in Hair, Beauty, Spa and Holistics are set to rise in the near future. 13% of Hairdressing and Beauty Salon Managers in our region are aged 55 or above, creating a demand locally, in fact, careers in Hairdressing have grown 2% over the last 2 years and are expected to grow even further over the next 4 years.

There are currently 5340 Beauty Therapists employed in our region and this is set to grow by 3%, so there's never been a better time to enter this creative industry.

Whether you are a school leaver, an adult wanting a career change, or would just like to learn a creative new skill, West Lancashire College has a wide range of fantastic courses from level 1 up to professional level, that can be studied full-time, part-time in the day or evening.

Many courses attract government funding, and the college also has a support fund for those eligible learners who require support with their kit costs, child care or travel to and from college.

In addition, The Imagery Hair & Beauty Academy is open to the public and offers clients a wide range of services personalised to individual's needs, with in-depth consultations, bespoke cuts and colours designed to help create the perfect finished look. Clients can also expect indulgent head massages and complimentary refreshments to ensure they look and feel fantastic! If you would like to find out more about the full list of services, call 01695 52317 or go to westlancs.ac.uk/about-us/the-imagery-hair-beauty-academy

To find out more, please contact the college Course Enquiries on 01695 52300, enquiries@westlancs.ac.uk or go to www.westlancs.ac.uk

Terena is a lady of distinction!

Terena McCartan joined West Lancashire College 2 years ago after a health scare made her re-evaluate her life and led to her following her dreams.

After receiving a college Course Guide in the Champion, Terena decided it was time for her to do something she'd always wanted to do for herself and joined the Hairdressing Level 2 course in the evening. She is now in her second year and studying the Level 3 advanced course, and has received Distinctions in all her course units.

Terena said "I'd always wanted to do hairdressing and after a health issue I thought it would give it a go. I was nervous going back to college at first and thought it would be all younger students, however there were people of all ages on the course and the support and encouragement I received from the tutors was amazing.

I attend college two nights per week, and with a full time job it can be intense, but I love it! My Tutors Alison and Emma are fabulous, they always have time for me and if it wasn't for their passion and showing me I can do it I couldn't have achieved what I have so far."

Terena added "In the future I would like to grow my clients as a mobile Hairdresser and I want to be that Hairdresser that people can trust and never want to leave!

I would recommend anyone to do the course, no matter what their age or previous experience. Joining the Hairdressing course at West Lancashire College has been a great decision for me and I look forward to my future."

If you wish to be like Terena and start your career as a Hairdresser, West Lancashire College has a course for you. Whether you have just left school, or are an adult wishing to retrain, there are full and part-time study options available in the day or evening.

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Course	Day	Time	Duration	Fee	Start Date
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CATERING & HOSPITALITY					
Food Safety Award in Catering ☎ FC	Tue	9am-4pm	1 day	£30	16/04/2019
Modern Wedding Cake and Flowers ☎	Wed	6pm-8.30pm	8 wks	£35*	08/05/2019
Patisserie Introduction ☎	Wed	6pm-9pm	10 wks	£30*	24/04/2019
Spring Cake Design ☎	Thur	6pm-8.30pm	8 wks	£35*	09/05/2019
CREATIVE ARTS, PHOTOGRAPHY & DIGITAL					
Digital Photography ☎	Thur	6pm-9pm	10 wks	£20*	25/04/2019
Kiln Glass-developing techniques ☎	Thur	6pm-9pm	4 wks	£48*	25/04/2019
Kiln Glass-developing techniques ☎	Fri	10am-1pm	4 wks	£48*	07/06/2019
Machine Quilting Beginners ☎	Thur	10.30am-3pm	10wks	£30*	25/04/2019
Mixed Media Embroidery ☎	Wed	10.30am-3pm	9 wks	£30*	01/05/2019
Photography Intermediate ☎	Wed	6pm-9pm	10 wks	£30*	24/04/2019
Photoshop Introduction ☎	Tue	6pm-9pm	10 wks	£20*	23/04/2019
Pottery Introduction - new techniques ☎	Tue	6pm-9pm	10 wks	£38*	23/04/2019
Pottery Introduction - new techniques ☎	Thur	10am-1pm	10 wks	£38*	25/04/2019
Silk painting and Batik Workshop ☎	Mon	10am-4pm	8 wks	£30*	29/04/2019
Silk painting and Batik Intermediate ☎	Tue	10am-4pm	10 wks	£35*	23/04/2019
CREATIVE WRITING					
Creative Writing ☎	Tue	2pm-5pm	10 wks	FREE	23/04/2019
DRESSMAKING					
Dressmaking Level 1 Introduction ☎	Tue	6pm-9pm	10 wks	£50*	23/04/2019
Dressmaking Level 2 Intermediate ☎	Wed	6pm-9pm	10 wks	£50*	24/04/2019
DANCE					
Dancing Beginners ☎	Wed	6pm-7.30pm	9 wks	£20*	01/05/2019
Dancercise ☎	Wed	5.30pm-6.30pm	8 wks	£20*	24/04/2019
EMPLOYABILITY					
Learning for Work & Life (19+ learners) **IE**	Wed, Thur & Fri	9.30am-3.30pm	12 wks	FREE	23/04/2019
ENGLISH					
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English for Adults **IE**	Wed	1pm-3pm	Flexible	FREE	Ongoing
ESOL					
English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Beginners **IE**	Mon	1pm-3pm	Flexible	FREE	Ongoing
English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Beginners **IE**	Tue	9.30am-12noon or 6pm-8.30pm	Flexible	FREE	Ongoing
English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Advanced **IE**	Wed	9.30am-12noon or 6pm-8.30pm	Flexible	FREE	Ongoing
HAIR, BEAUTY, SPA & NAILS					
Artificial Nail Treatment ☎	Wed	9.30am-12.30pm	6 wks	£50*	22/05/2019
Body Massage Introduction ☎	Mon	9.30am-12.30pm	4 wks	£50*	20/05/2019
Classic Cutting ☎ FC	Mon	10am-5pm	1 day	£99	29/04/2019
Manicure & Pedicure ☎	Mon	9.30am-12.30pm	6 wks	£50*	20/05/2019
MATHS					
Maths for Adults **IE**	Tue	10.15am-12.15pm	Flexible	FREE	Ongoing
Maths for Adults **IE**	Tue	1pm-3pm	Flexible	FREE	Ongoing
Maths for Adults **IE**	Wed	6.30pm-8.30pm	Flexible	FREE	Ongoing
Maths for Adults **IE**	Thur	12noon-2pm	Flexible	FREE	Ongoing
Maths GCSE Online Learning ☎	ongoing	ongoing	3 mths	£99	01/04/2019
PRINCE'S TRUST					
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ENROLMENT

In person:
Monday 1 – Wednesday 3 April / 10am-3pm
Wednesday 3 April / 5pm-7pm
West Lancashire College, Skelmersdale Campus, College Way, Skelmersdale, WN8 6LH.

By telephone for courses marked with a : ☎
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WHAT WILL I PAY?

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If you do have to pay for your course you could spread the payments with our instalment plan.

KEY TO TABLES

FC	Full Fee is payable
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Current Letter authorised by the Job Centre (JSA book not accepted). Bank Statement

Learners aged 19 or over in receipt of UCRED, unemployed and mandated by Job Centre and earning less than £330 per month(All Work-Related Requirements Group, Work Preparation Group and Work-Focused Interview Group)
Current Letter authorised by the Job Centre

Adults in receipt of other State Benefits who are unemployed and wishing to return to work
Income Support – current letter/bank statement. Housing/Council Tax Benefit – letter from council or bank statement. Working Tax Credit/Pension. Credits – current award notice.

TUITION MAY BE DISCOUNTED FOR:

Individuals who want to be employed (or progress into more sustainable employment) and earning less than £15,736.50 annual gross salary
Proof of income eg: individual payslips (3 months), P60 Contract of employment

Individuals from a low household income who are not eligible for free tuition and have a gross household income of less than £20,817 or independent income of £12,400. Learners are required to apply to the Discretionary Learner Support Fund for financial help towards their tuition fee
Proof of income eg: household payslips (3 months), P60, current award notice

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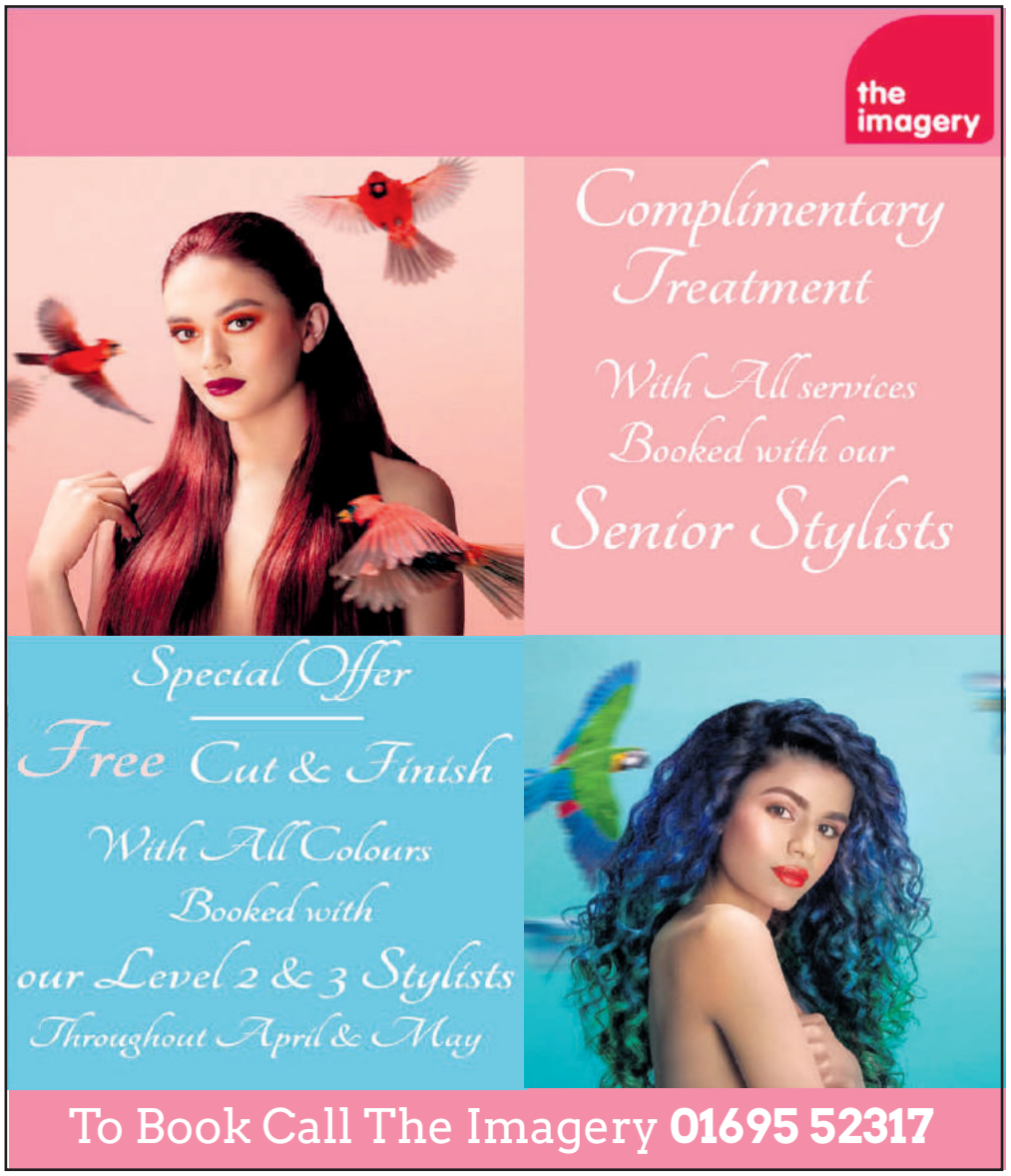
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